MAP AND SKETCHES

Bureau County, Ill.

By N. Matson

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SEATTLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 549
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MAP

OF

BUREAU COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

WITH

SKETCHES OF ITS EARLY SETTLEMENT.

BY N. MATSON.

PUBLISHED BY [illegible]

CHICAGO:

[illegible]

1861.

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SECOND EDITION.

BY N. MATSON.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.

CHICAGO:

TRIBUNE COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, 51 CLARK STREET.

1867.

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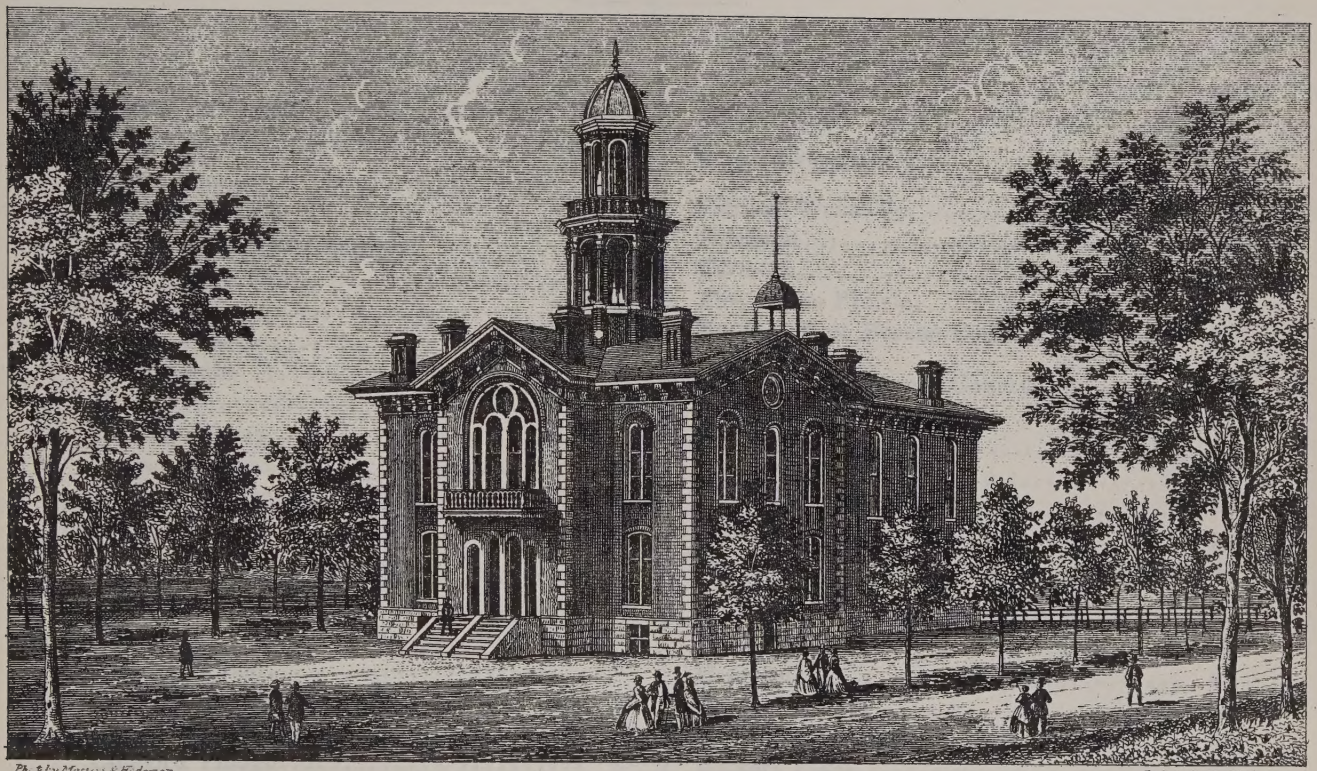

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BUREAU Co. COURT HOUSE,

PRINCETON, ILL.

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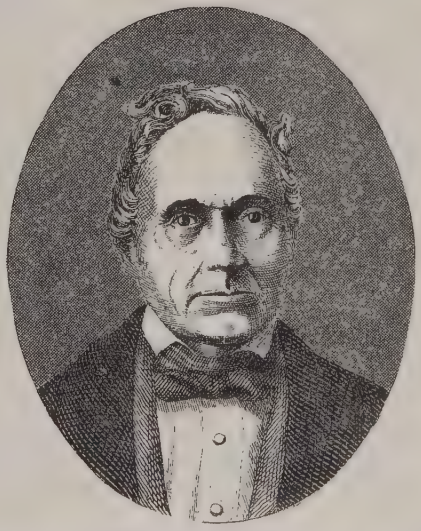
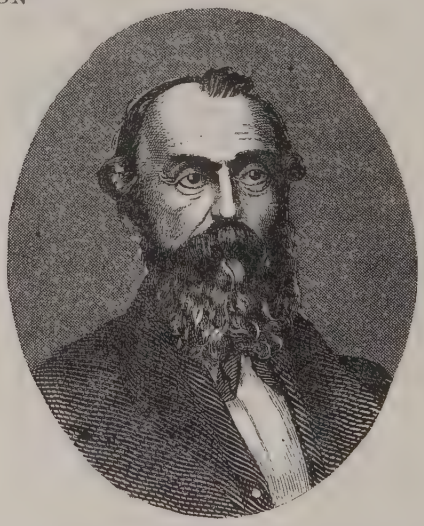
N. MATSON



CYRUS LANGWORTHY



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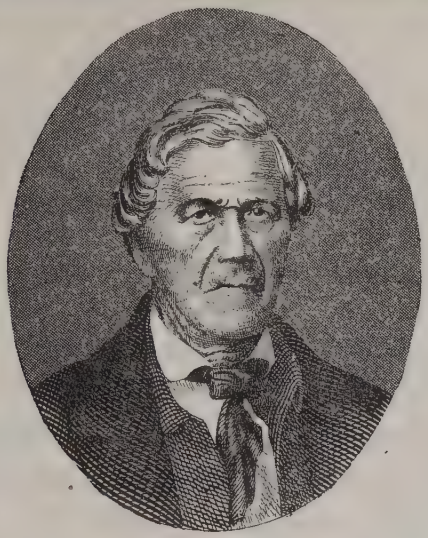

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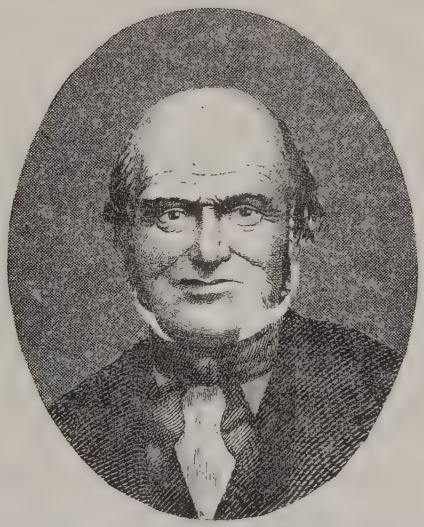
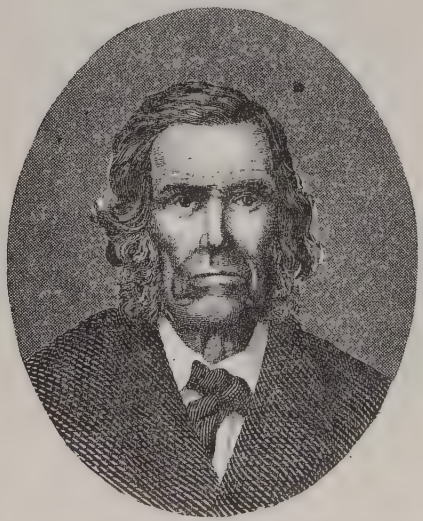


COL. AUSTIN BRYANT

C. W. COMBS



Wm HOSKINS

INTRODUCTION.

The first edition of these sketches was before the public but a short time before it became evident that a new one would be required, as the demand was not fully supplied. In publishing the second edition, it was thought best to add a few new articles, and enlarge some of the others which relate to the settlement of towns.

In ordinary publications, the author is able to collect many items from records and libraries, and select valuable facts from works previously published. But in a local matter of this kind it is very different; the facts had to be obtained from original sources, many of them from persons now living in the county. As the value of the work depends upon its correctness, every means of obtaining reliable information on the various points, has been resorted to.

Many of the early settlers are dead, or have moved to other States, and the accounts relating to them, as well as other matters, were conflicting. The persons consulted made their statements according to their best recollection, and the only way to arrive at the facts, was to procure the statement of one person and compare it with that of others, and then to call on each for correction and revision, when accounts did

not agree. In this way the various statements were made to harmonize, and errors were avoided.

In preparing this work, efforts have been made to base every statement on reliable authority; while things of a doubtful character have been excluded from a place in these pages. It would be too much, however, to presume that no errors have escaped detection.

This little work makes no claim as a literary production, and was not written for the benefit of critics, but for the masses, who will read it for the facts therein contained, and not for the purpose of taking exceptions to the plainness of the style in which it is presented. The only claim it makes is that of collecting and preserving many things of general interest which relate to the early settlement of this county; and although it may not appear to be as full and complete as the public might desire, nevertheless all will admit it is a movement in the right direction.

There are some things relating to the Black Hawk war, not generally known, and which may appear strange to the reader; they are taken from the statement of Shaubena and other Indians while in conversation with the author, a short time after they occurred, and are undoubtedly true, as the Indians could have had no object in misrepresenting them.

It was not the intention to give a description of every place in the county, but of those more particularly connected with its early settlement, some of which have long since lost their names, and do not appear on the present map of the county; to these have been added a brief sketch of the settlement of each town, and a short description of villages.

N MATSON.

Princeton, Ill., 1867.

COUNTY MAP.

In preparing this map, an effort was made to have it excel in correctness and mechanical work, anything of the kind heretofore published. To accomplish this, neither labor nor money have been spared. Competent men were employed on the surveys, with the understanding that they should have about all the profits. The contract for the mechanical work was let for several hundred dollars more than would have been required for ordinary local map work. How well the publisher has succeeded in accomplishing his designs, the public will have to decide.

This Map makes no pretension to show every particular thing in its proper place —perfection belongs to nothing, much less to county maps. If it were possible to get the draft perfect, errors would be made by the engravers, which could not be detected in time for correction.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Illustrations that appear here, were engraved expressly for this work. The buildings here represented are among the best in the county.

The portraits are of persons who settled here at an early day; they are all farmers, and are living in this county at the present time, except Col. Austin Bryant, who died in January, 1866. Mr. Bryant was a brother of William C. Bryant, the American poet.

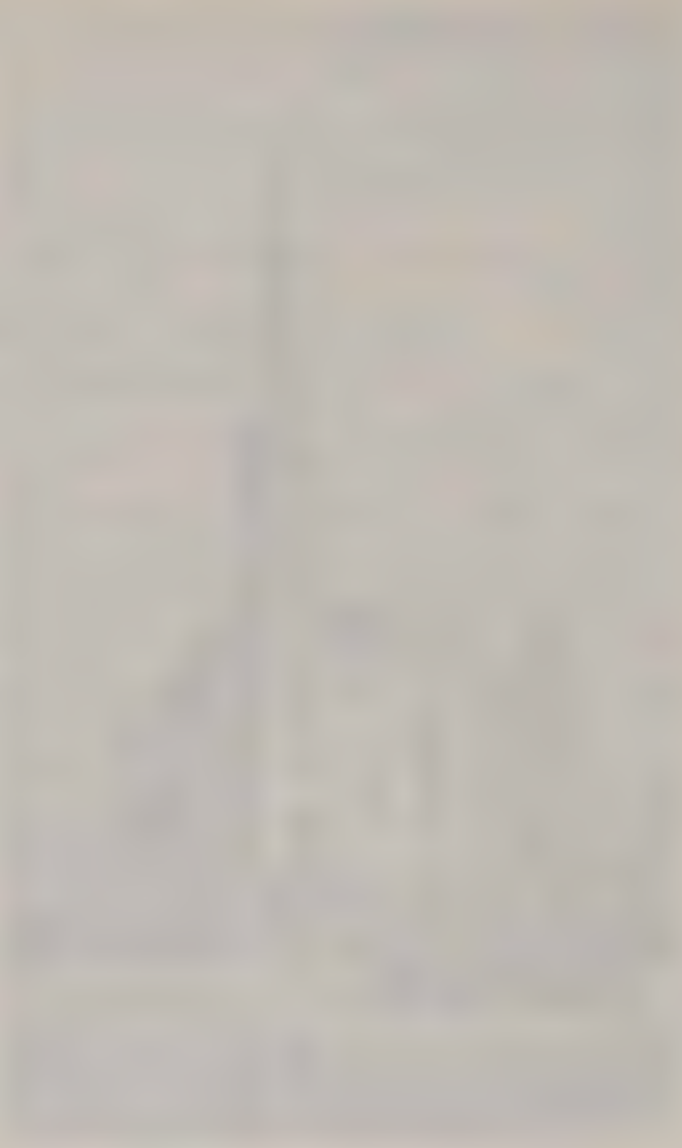
A short biography of these persons might be expected, but their portraits speak for themselves.

BUREAU* COUNTY.

The territory which now constitutes Bureau County, (as is well recollected by some of its early settlers,) was not many years ago in a state of nature. Not a house or a cultivated field could be seen on these vast prairies. A herd of deer, a lone wolf, or a roving band of Indians, were then the rude tenants of this beautiful region. Different localities were known only by streams, groves, or points of timber, and were unconnected by roads, save here and there an Indian trail. Thirty-seven years have passed away since that time, and what a change has been produced in this territory. Now, cultivated farms, with valuable improvements and well-tilled fields of waving grain, have taken the place of the wild grass and flowers of the unbroken prairie, throughout the entire county; also, fine villages have sprung up as it were by magic, with their tall steeples glittering in the sunbeams; and the whistling of engines, the clattering of machinery, and the merry songs of the plowman, are heard everywhere throughout this populous county. Instead of being the habitation of a few degraded savages, it is now the happy home of over 34,000 inhabitants, where intelligence, industry and wealth abound.

* The origin of the word *Bureau* is not known. It is said to have been the name of an Indian chief, that lived at one time near the mouth of Bureau creek; others say the name is French, and called after a Frenchman by the name of Bureau, who was one of the early explorers; but there appears to be nothing reliable on this subject. In old maps, published before the settlement of the country, Bureau creek had the name of Robinson's river. This is said to have originated in this way: after the massacre of the garrison at Chicago, in 1812, Governor Edwards fitted out an expedition against the Indians, at the head of Peoria Lake, when he burned their villages. One Lieut. Robinson, who accompanied this expedition with a company of soldiers, came as far north as this stream, hence the name.

E METHODIST CHURCH, PRINCETON ILLS.



In point of population, this county ranks the seventh among the 102 counties of the State. Those having a greater population either have a larger territory or include large cities within their boundaries. Other things being equal, Bureau would be the most populous county in the State. It contains 18 villages, 204 school-houses, 58 meeting-houses, 89 miles of railroad, and 28 miles of partly built railroad, with the Illinois river, affording steamboat navigation, forming its south-eastern boundary. As regards fine improved farms and agricultural productions, this county probably has no equal in the State.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

At the time the settlement of this county commenced, the whole northern part of the State was one vast wilderness, with scarcely a house north of Fort Clark (now Peoria). Two or three families had settled near Lacon; an Indian trader, belonging to the North-western Fur Company, by the name of Hubbard, had built a cabin on the Illinois river—opposite the mouth of Bureau; and two families (Captain Wm. Haws and James W. Willis) had settled on the Oxbow Prairie, in Putnam county. With these exceptions, it is believed there was no one living in the territory now embraced in Bureau and its adjacent counties.

A person living here, at the present time, can have but little idea of the wild, and yet beautiful appearance of this country, in a state of nature. Here was the rolling prairie, stretching out as far as the eye could reach, all covered with flowers of every hue, from early spring until late in the fall, intermingled with beautiful groves of timber, where the woodman's ax had never fallen. Here too, ran streams of water, as clear as crystal, at all seasons of the year, no plowman having broken the sod to muddy their fair current.

Such was the appearance of the country on the 5th of May, 1828, when Henry Thomas built the first house within the limits of this county. His location was the north-west quarter of Section 33, Town of Bureau, on the farm now occupied by Elias Carter. The same summer Edward Justus and John L. Ament settled at Red Oak Grove, for the purpose of trading with the Indians, in connection with farming. In the fall of the same year, Reason Hall built a cabin on Section 34, Town of Hall, near the present residence of J. Wassom, but abandoned it for a location south of the river. The next year, 1829, Amos Leonard and Daniel Dimmick settled in Selby; the same year, Timothy Perkins settled in Leepertown, and John Dixon at Boyd's Grove, and Bulbona, at Bulbona Grove. In 1830, Ezekiel Thomas and Abram Stratton settled in Bureau, John Hall and Wm. Hoskins in Selby, Elijah Epperson in Princeton, John M. Gay in Wyanet, and Dad Joe* at Dad Joe Grove. In 1831, others came in, and many settled on the east side of Big Bureau, and built their cabins in the grove, by the side of springs.†

Few can form a correct idea of the hardships and inconvenience of settling a new country, deprived of almost every comfort of civilization; there were no roads, no schools, and no law, only such as the settlers made among themselves. There was no store or place of trade nearer than Peoria; the only place for grinding their grain was at a horse mill, six miles east of Peoria; most of the settlers pounded their corn in a hominy block, and ground their wheat in a coffee mill, and sifted out the bran. The reader will recollect, from 1827 to 1833, the frontier settlers of all the North-west were frequently alarmed by reports of Indian hostilities. The settlers on Bureau were out of the reach of protection; there was no garrison nearer than Chicago, and, at the time of these panics, some would go south and leave their crops to be destroyed,

* Joseph Smith, but he was known everywhere as "Dad Joe."

† For further accounts of settlements, see Towns.

and their stock to run wild on the prairies; others would send their families off, while they would remain to raise a crop, always keeping a watch for the enemy; sometimes having their guns with them while working in the field, leaving their cabins at night and sleeping in the grove, to avoid being surprised by the Indians.

After steamboats commenced running on the Illinois river, emigrants could bring their furniture and provisions with them and enjoy many of the comforts of civilized life, but these luxuries the early settlers did not have—all they had was brought with them in a wagon, and they had to live in a tent until a cabin could be built. Their living was, mostly, hominy and potatoes; getting their supply of meat from game, such as deer and wild turkeys, and their sweetening from bee-trees in the grove, which were plenty at the time. Their houses were mostly rude cabins, containing only one room, with puncheon floor and a clapboard door hung on wooden hinges, with the latch string hanging out to be pulled by visitors. Stoves, sofas, and carpets composed no part of their furniture; those using tobacco could always find a convenience, in the absence of a spittoon, by spitting through a crack in the floor between the puncheons.

As a general thing the best of feeling existed between neighbors. A person living close by was made a friend and associate by the force of circumstances; there was no classifying on account of wealth; all were equal—rich and poor alike; codfish aristocracy was unknown in those days.

A majority of the first settlers were men of enterprise and intelligence. If any persons are entitled to more regard than others, it is those who underwent the hardships and have borne the burden of the settlement of a new country.

Thirty-nine years have passed away since the settlement of this county commenced; how changed things are: no longer the howling of wolves and the yelling of savages, but the sound of church and school bells, and the whistling of engines, are heard in their place.

ORGANIZATION OF PUTNAM COUNTY.

In 1825, a bill passed the Legislature creating the County of Putnam, making its boundaries as follows:—Commencing at a point on the Illinois river, where the north line of Town 11 touches said river, up said stream to the mouth of the Kankakee, and along that river to the Indiana State line; thence north, along Lake Michigan, to the north-east corner of the State; thence west, to Range 4; thence south to Town 11; thence east, to the place of beginning. This territory at present contains twenty-four counties, including Cook and part of Jo Daviess. The act provided, that as soon as this county contained 350 inhabitants they were authorized to organize and elect county officers, for which the Judge of the Circuit Court was directed to issue an order. In 1830, it contained about 700 inhabitants, who were scattered over this vast territory, from Peoria to Chicago, and from the State line of Indiana to Galena, which made the organization almost impossible. On the 15th of January, 1831, an amended act passed the Legislature, giving new boundaries to the county of Putnam, and providing for its immediate organization. It contained all of the original territory south of Town 19, and a part of the territory attached to Tazewell county, lying on the east side of the river. The act provided, that the county seat should be located on the Illinois river, and should be called Hennepin. In May following, the commissioners met, and located the county seat where it now stands. The county was divided into four precincts, Bureau being one of them, including all that part of the county north of a line from the head of Crow Prairie to Six-mile Grove, thence north-west to the county line; this territory includes all Bureau county, and part of Putnam, Marshall, and Stark counties.

The first general election in this precinct, was held at the house of Elijah Epperson, one and a half miles north of Princeton, on the first Monday in August, 1831;

the voters were, Henry Thomas, Elijah Epperson, Leonard Roth, John M. Gay, Mason Dimmick, Samuel Gleason, Curtiss Williams, Justus Ament, John L. Ament, John W. Hall, Henry H. Harrison, Abram Stratton, Ezekiel Thomas, Hezekiah Epperson, E. H. Hall, Adam Taylor, Daniel Dimmick, Thomas Washburn, and Anthony Epperson—making, in all, nineteen.

INDIANS OF BUREAU COUNTY.

The number of Indians that lived within the limits of this county is not known, but is supposed to be from 1,500 to 2,000, all of them Pottawatomies. Their village was on the present site of Tiskilwa, and contained from 300 to 400 lodges, mostly built close to the bluff, on both sides of the Spring branch, that runs between the Tiskilwa House and John Stevens' dwelling. In front of their village, where the depot now stands, were their cornfields; on a knoll, west of C. A. Dean's residence, were their caches, where they buried their corn, and on the high ground, near Stevens' Mill, their council-house and dance ground. In the summer of 1830, a great war dance was held on this ground, when an effort was made to get the Pottawatomies to join the Sac and Fox tribe in a war against the whites. There were collected about 1,000 warriors, consisting of Sacs, Foxes, Winnebagoes, and Pottawatomies, with Black Hawk at their head; they were dressed so as to represent all kinds of animals, and painted with various colors, in honor of the sun, moon, and stars. The dance lasted three days, and their yelling could be heard for miles. This dance was described by an eyewitness, John L. Ament, as exceeding anything of the kind ever witnessed among the Indians of this county. It occurred on the return of Black Hawk's band from Canada, where they had been to get their annual presents from the British Government.

During the summer the Indians would live in their villages. The squaws would

raise corn, building fences around the cornfields, to prevent the ponies from destroying the crop, by driving sticks into the ground and tieing on poles with bark or withes. Their wigwams were mostly built of bark, with an opening at the south, and a hole in the centre of the roof to let out the smoke.

In the fall, after gathering and drying their corn, and burying it in their caches, where it would be safe for future use, they would leave their village and scatter all over the country for convenience in hunting, with from two to six lodges in a place; some going to Green river to collect furs, others along the Illinois river and Bureau creek. There was a large camping ground, or kind of head-quarters, west of Princeton, at the mouth of Epperson Run. Their principal chief's name was Autuckee. There was another petty chief, known by most of the early settlers, named Meommuse; he made his home, during winter and spring, at the Big Sugar camp, near the mouth of Masters' Fork of the Bureau. He had some ten or twelve lodges under his control.

These Indians had a large number of ponies, and mostly traveled from one place to another on horseback. Their ponies lived during the winter by browsing on young growth of tree tops, and on grass when the ground was bare. During the hard winter of 1830 and '31, many of the ponies died by starvation. When they would kill a deer they would, sometimes, tie it to a pony's tail and haul it into camp. Some of the early settlers have seen them dragging their canoes from Green river to the Illinois river, by tying a strap, one end to the canoe and the other around an Indian's waist; and then the Indian mounting his pony, bracing forward and holding on to the mane, the pony would haul the canoe to the place required.

Once in so many moons they would have their religious feasts. On these occasions large bodies of them would collect together, kill some of their favorite dogs and roast them whole, and offer up sacrifice to the Great Spirit for their success in hunting;

the exercise consisted in dancing and yelling. These feasts were frequently held at the mouth of Epperson Run. These Indians, as a general thing, were low and filthy in their habits, possessing (with rare exceptions) but few of the noble traits which sometimes elevate the savage character, and make Indian history worthy of record. However, they were peaceable and quiet, and lived on friendly terms with their white neighbors. They left at different times, from 1831 to 1835, to occupy lands assigned them by the Government, on the west side of the Mississippi river.

INDIAN TRAILS.

Sac and Fox Trail. This great thoroughfare of former days, entered this county on Section 30, Mineral, passed through the farm of J. G. Reed, crossed Coal Creek, at the railroad crossing west of Sheffield, went through Pond Grove; crossed West Bureau, in Section 4, through the farm of J. Thurston; crossed Big Bureau near Elliott's Mill, and through the farm of Geo. H. Bacon; passed a little north of Malden, through Berlin Centre and Lost Grove, and left the county not far from the south-east corner of Clarion. It will be seen by these points, that it ran almost straight through the county, in a north-eastern direction.

As late as 1836, this was a great highway, not only for Indians, but for white people, it being the only direct route from Chicago to Rock Island. The trail was about two feet wide, and on the high prairie it was, in some places, from one to two feet deep, made so by wearing and washing.

The first obstruction of the trail, in this county, was caused by a fence being built by Robert Murphy on his farm, in Section 33, Dover, in the summer of 1836. The Indians appeared very indignant about it, thinking it another infringement on their rights.

Of the origin of this trail but little is known. The general impression is, that it was made by Black Hawk and his band going back and forth to Canada, during the last British war, but this cannot be correct. Old Indians say it was in existence and called the Great War Path, at the time of their first recollection.

Trails to and from Indiantown. There was a trail which went up the point of the bluff, south of the Tiskilwa House, came on the prairie, not far from Dorr Hill, and went north of Boyd's Grove, in the direction of Spoon river.

Another trail crossed the creek near Stevens' Mill, went up the bluff, where the road now runs, and came on the prairie close to the residence of Mrs. Col. A. Bryant. Here it forked: one branch came north, as far as Princeton, then struck off in a north-eastern direction, until it intercepted the Sac and Fox trail, near Malden; the other branch went through the farms of Mrs. Musgrove and Joel Doolittle, and connected with the Sac and Fox trail at East Bureau.

Another trail went up the point west of Plow Hollow, came on the prairie on the farm of A. Benson, and down the Senatchwine creek to the Indian village.

Another went up the bluff not far from the Kinney farm; passed through Bulbona and Menominee Groves, and intersected the Sac and Fox trail near Sheffield. This trail forked, one branch of it running to Green river. There was another trail in the west part of the county, running almost north and south, extending from the Winnebago swamps to Peoria.

PEORIA AND GALENA ROAD.

This road was made in the spring of 1827, and was known for many years as Kellogg's Trail. It had its origin in this way: in 1824, the lead mines of Galena were opened, and people went there from all parts of the world. The road, connecting it with the settlement below, went by Rock Island, until, in the spring of 1827,

Kellogg, with a few others, to save the distance of going around by Rock Island, came straight through from Galena to Peoria, a distance of 160 miles, through an entire wilderness. Others took their trail, and in less than one year it became a great thoroughfare. Adventurers settled along the track, 15 or 20 miles apart, to entertain travelers; a mail line was established; a four-horse coach passed over the road six times a week; droves of cattle, hogs, and horses, with mining and emigrants' wagons, passed over it, and for many years it was the only road from north to south.

In 1833, an act passed the Legislature legalizing this road, for although it had been traveled for six years, it had never been laid out or worked. The viewers appointed to locate it were J. B. Merrideth, Joseph Smith (Dad Joe), and Charles S. Boyd.

The road entered this county on Section 34, Milo; went through the head of Boyd's Grove, over the town site of Providence, by the south end of Bulbona Grove, made a point of timber in Section 33, Bureau, and through Red Oak Grove, and left the county not far from the north-west corner of Ohio Township. It was afterwards changed to go through Dad Joe Grove, and in 1834, it passed through Princeton.

In the spring of 1831, Dad Joe was appointed overseer of roads, by the County Commissioners' Court of Jo Daviess county, and ordered to work this road, fixing his district from the north line of Peoria county to Rock river, being a distance of 65 miles. He could only find four men in his whole district to work it.

WILD ANIMALS.

At the first settlement of this county, there were plenty of otters, raccoons, badgers, skunks, catamounts, and lynx. Occasionally a stray panther and bear could be seen. Deer were very plenty, and it was not uncommon to see a herd of forty or

fifty feeding on the prairie, and bounding away at the approach of man. During the winter of 1842–3, the snow was very deep, with a crust on it which prevented the deer from keeping out of the way of the hunter; they were chased down by dogs and almost exterminated. One man boasted of having killed eighty-seven that winter. They have not been plenty since, and at present they are seldom seen.

Wolves were numerous; the big black and grey wolves were occasionally seen, but the greatest pests were the prairie wolves, which were very plenty, and their howling could be heard almost every night; they lived on the prairie, and would come forth at night and attack sheep, pigs, etc. The county paid a large bounty for their scalps, which has helped the work of extermination, as many would hunt them for the profit. There were various ways of killing them, such as trapping, poisoning and chasing them down with horses—the latter plan was very successful, and was sometimes attended with much sport. A citizen of the town of Dover, captured a wolf one day by this method, he struck it on the head with a club, and to all appearance, killed it instantly; he was in the act of skinning it, and having completed one side, he turned it over to skin the other, when, all of a sudden, the wolf came to life, jumped up and ran off with the skin flapping in the air, and he had to chase it some distance with dogs before recapturing it.

Buffalo, at one time, roamed at large on these prairies, but have long since disappeared from the east side of the Mississippi river, but at what time is not definitely known. Explorers of 1780, speak of buffalo being plenty along the Illinois river, and throughout the North-west. The Indians say they all disappeared at one time, about the year 1790. At that time, according to their account, there came a deep snow of four or five feet, and a hard crust formed on it; the buffalo were caught in the prairies and all perished. This account is quite probable; thirty years ago their bones and horns were found in large numbers on the prairies. There is a place on

Section 4, Berlin, at present the farm of Elias Isaac, where the ground for some distance was covered with their bones. In all probability a large herd had perished here.

FIRE ON THE PRAIRIE.

Persons coming here after the country is settled up, can form but an imperfect idea of the terrific and yet beautiful appearance of the prairie on fire. When this country was in a state of nature, and under the control of the red man, as soon as the grass would burn, fire would be applied to it, to facilitate hunting. But as the country settled up, means were used to prevent its burning in the fall. Every one preferred a late burn around their own premises, so their stock would feed on it and be at home; but if the fire got at large on the prairies, the only means left was to backfire, to prevent being burned out.

During the fall and winter, when the weather was dry, fire was visible, at some points, almost every night, and frequently, in various directions. On a dark night, it would supply the place of the moon—the reflection on the atmosphere being such as to make the light visible forty or fifty miles. As long as there was no wind, or a head wind, the fire would travel slowly, being sometimes days in going a few miles; but when the wind was favorable, it would go at railroad speed.

In November, 1836, a fire broke out on Spoon river, in Stark county, about ten o'clock in the morning. The wind being very strong from the south-west, it traveled at the rate of ten or twelve miles per hour. It passed between West Bureau and Green river, having a front of four or five miles, and the roaring could be heard for a great distance. It passed Heaton's Point about 2 o'clock. Neither roads, streams, nor timber appeared to check its course, and before sundown, it burned to the banks

of Rock river. Its course was through an almost unsettled part of the country, and but little damage was done.

BLACK HAWK WAR.

As early as the spring of 1830, an effort was made by Black Hawk to unite with him all the tribes, east of the Mississippi river, in a war of extermination against the frontier settlers of all the North-west. To accomplish this, he and the celebrated prophet, a Winnebago chief, with many of their warriors, held councils and war dances at different places. One of these was held at Indiantown, when Black Hawk explained to the Pottawatomies, that unless they could prevent the whites from settling here they would soon lose their homes and hunting-grounds. Many of the warriors favored this union, but the principal chiefs opposed it. Again in the spring of 1831, Black Hawk made the same proposition to the Pottawatomies, and received great encouragement from them. He crossed the Mississippi river and took possession of his old village, at Rock Island; but the prompt action of the United States troops, and the Governor calling out the militia, defeated his plans; though it created a panic among the settlers. Some left the country for good; others went as far south as Peoria or Springfield, until the fright was over; not a few sent their families off and remained themselves to raise a crop. Many rumors were afloat of Indian hostilities, which were greatly exaggerated, of course, but it kept the settlers on the alert, they frequently having their guns with them while working in the field, and sometimes leaving their cabins at night and sleeping in the grove, to prevent being surprised by the Indians. Although this passed off without bloodshed, it prevented the settlers from raising much of a crop or making improvements. But active hostility was only deferred one year. In April, 1832, Black Hawk again crossed the Mississippi river, with about 500 warriors, and commenced his march up Rock river, expecting all the

Winnebagoes and part of the Pottawatomies to join his standard (which expectation was never realized). Some time previous to this, probably in February or March, a council was held, in the council-house, at Indiantown. The prophet and some of the leading chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes were present. A proposition was made to the Indians of this county, that if they would join the hostile band, and assist to murder all the settlers west of the Illinois river, they would be entitled to all the spoils, and could appropriate to their own use, all the horses, cattle, clothing, etc., belonging to the settlers. But little did the settlers think, while sitting by their cabin fires, that these savages were debating among themselves the propriety of cutting their throats and those of their little ones. By the influence of Shaubena the peace party prevailed, but many of the young warriors pledged themselves to the support of Black Hawk's cause.

About the last of April, 1832, Shaubena and his band were encamped on the little branch, south of the residence of Christopher Corss, near where the road now crosses said branch. It was noticed that strange Indians came to his camp, wearing different kinds of dress from that worn by Shaubena's band, and there appeared to be great excitement. Indians could be seen riding back and forth across the prairie, at full speed, and within three days from that time not an Indian could be seen within the limits of this county. The news of Black Hawk's crossing the Mississippi river had not reached the settlers, but those noticing the movement of the Indians prophesied evil ahead.

About four years after this occurrence, in conversation with Shaubena, he said that while encamped on Bureau, (supposed to be the time and place above referred to) the son of Black Hawk and two other petty war chiefs came to him and said, "Black Hawk, with 1000 warriors, was at Prophetstown; and the whole Winnebago Nation had joined his standard;" [here they exhibited a diagram, drawn by the Prophet, on

buckskin, showing in what way they could hold all of this country, and set the United States troops at defiance,] "and if he would join them they would, before three days, have 200 warriors here; kill all the settlers at one stroke; and take all the cattle and horses to Rock river, to supply Black Hawk's army."

On the 14th of May, Stillman was defeated at Old Man's Creek; the next day, runners came to Shaubena, then at Shaubena Grove, and renewed their former proposition of joining them, stating that Atkinson's whole army had been annihilated, and they were now masters of the Rock River country. Many of the young braves were determined to join them, he could control them no longer; he knew within a few days many families would be murdered; his heart sickened at the thought of it; not knowing whom to trust, even among his own friends, he determined to notify them of their danger himself. The first one he came to was Squire Dimmick at Dimmick's Grove; whom he told of the danger. Dimmick said he had left the year before, and it was nothing but a scare, and he thought it would be so this time, at any rate, said he, "I will plant my corn first." Shaubena said to him, if he would stay, "send off the squaws and papooses, or they will all be killed before three days." Shaubena feeling hurt that his story should not be credited, left the house. Dimmick followed him out, to make further inquiries; he had already mounted his pony; raising his hand high above his head, he said, "you must *puckegee*," meaning "be off;" and in a moment his pony was in a gallop, to notify others. Before sundown, Dimmick was on the road to the fort at Hennepin.

Shaubena gave notice to Mr. Epperson, Mr. Musgrove, and Dr. Chamberlain, and left for Holderman's Grove and Indian Creek. The families of Hall, Daviess, and Pettigrew were killed two days after receiving the warning, and six after Stillman's defeat.

The Indians came first to the Bureau settlement, where they intended to make

the first attack,* and were surprised to find everybody gone. They next went to Indian Creek, and killed the families above referred to. The Indians intended to return to Bureau settlement and burn the houses, and kill the horses and cattle, but were afraid of the Rangers. They were very angry at Shaubena for giving warning to the settlers, called him a squaw and a traitor, and threatened his life. He and part of his band joined Atkinson's army, and remained with it during the war.

When the settlers received the news of the commencement of hostilities, there was a perfect panic; every one left with such means as were at hand, and it was well they did so, for the sequel shows that a delay of a day or two would have proved fatal to many.

Henry Thomas was with Stillman's army when it met with a defeat, and left for home immediately, to look after his family and friends. All prepared to leave forthwith. In that neighborhood there were five families, and but one wagon in running condition; but go they must. Some took sleds and ox-teams, and by dark they were on the road to Peoria.

John L. Ament was planting corn when he heard the news, and at once left it and caught his horses. Placing his wife and little one upon one, and mounting the other himself, they started for McLean county. They had only gone a mile or two from their cabin, when they discovered, at a distance, what they supposed to be a band of Indians. They put their horses at full speed, and Mr. Ament's hat blew off, but on they went for miles. Meeting other parties, the whole matter was explained —it was a party of Rangers, who had come over from Hennepin to look after the settlers. Many mistakes of this kind occurred during the war, some of which are quite laughable.

Most of the Bureau settlers went to Hennepin, where a fort was built to accom-

* Statement of Shaubena.

modate people on both sides of the river. Many of the able-bodied men volunteered as Rangers, and were on duty until the war was over; some joined Atkinson's army, as teamsters; while others left the country, never to return.

About the 20th of May, Major Baxter, with two companies of mounted Rangers, mostly from St. Clair county, came to Henry Thomas's, and there built a fort. The location of this fort was on the ground where Elias Carter's house now stands. It was a plain structure, consisting of a block-house, surrounded with barricades about fifteen feet high, and was called Fort Thomas. The garrison consisted of 140 soldiers, who remained until the war was over. Had it not been for this fort, and the almost daily visits of mounted Rangers from Hennepin, nothing would have been left in the Bureau settlement—houses would have been burned, and stock killed or driven off—as the settlers had gone, leaving most of their furniture in their houses, and their horses and cattle to roam at large on the prairie.

The following are the names of all the families living in this county at the time of the Black Hawk war; this does not include many single men, who had cabins and were living in them:—

Town of Lamoille, Daniel Dimmick; Dover, John L. Ament; Princeton, Elijah Epperson, Dr. N. Chamberlain, Eli Smith, Elijah Smith, John Musgrove, Roland Moseley, Daniel Smith, Robert Clark, and Joel Doolittle; Arispie, Michael Kitterman, Curtiss Williams, and Dave Jones; Selby, John Hall, William Hoskins, Amos Leonard, and John Clark; Wyanet, Abram Obrist, and Bulbona; Bureau, Henry Thomas, Ezekiel Thomas, Abram Stratton, and John M. Gay; Ohio, Dad Joe; Walnut, James Magby; Milo, Charles S. Boyd; Leepertown, Timothy Perkins and Leonard Roth.

There were some ten families at Holderman's Grove and Indian Creek, in LaSalle county. This constitutes all the settlers west of the Illinois river, except one family at Dixon, one at Buffalo Grove, and the miners about Galena.

Again in the spring of 1833, the settlers on Bureau were alarmed by the movements of the Indians on Rock river. The Winnebagoes collected in large bodies, held councils and war dances. Many thought there was a union between them and the Pottawatomies to make one great effort to expel the whites and regain their homes and hunting-grounds. It was noticed that the Indians on Bureau were planting no corn, but collecting in bodies, and appearing shy and unfriendly. Many rumors were in circulation of their receiving a large amount of arms from the British in Canada. Every one thought there was trouble ahead, and to cap the climax one Michael Leonard came one day to the house of John Hall, very much excited, and said he had been attacked by a large body of Indians, on East Bureau, not far from where Mr. Fox now lives. He said many shots were fired at him and he barely escaped with his life; here he exhibited his hat with two ball holes in it. This created a great panic throughout the settlement; many left for Hennepin at a moment's notice, while some took their families as far south as Peoria.

A committee was appointed to examine Leonard's hat. It was found the ball holes were too low down, they could not have passed through his hat without passing through his head; many disbelieved his story, and accused him of shooting his own hat.

The settlers in the vicinity of Princeton made preparations to build a fort, the residence of Joel Doolittle was selected; here they put up barricades around his cabin, using the latter for a block-house.

This affair passed off without bloodshed, but was a great annoyance to the settlers, as they had to use the same precaution to guard against Indian hostilities as they had done for two seasons before.

KILLING OF PHILLIPS.

The only case of murder by the Indians, within the limits of this county, during the Black Hawk war, was the killing of Phillips, on a farm now occupied by G. C. Weibel, one and a-half miles north of Dover, on the 18th of June, 1832. The following account of the affair is partly taken from the sketches of Princeton, published in 1857, by I. B. Smith :—

Seven persons, named Elijah Phillips, J. Hodge, Sylvester Brigham, John L. Ament, Aaron Gunn, J. G. Forristall, and a youth by the name of Ziba Dimmick, left Hennepin and came over to the settlement after their cattle, which were kept at the cabin of Ament and Phillips. Indians were then lurking about in ambush, ready to pick off the settlers, as they might have an opportunity, and of course our friends were obliged to be on the watch, for they were running the risk of their lives, as the sequel of our story will show.

Arriving at the cabin of Ament, he (Ament) stationed his companions at the doors and windows as sentinels, while he prepared their dinner, which as soon as ready was partaken of by a part of them at a time, the others keeping a sharp look-out for the enemy. After dinner a consultation was held as to the expediency of remaining in their present station until morning, or returning immediately, the rain then pouring down in torrents, and Indians in all probability around them. Failing to agree in the matter, Phillips, who was somewhat of an eccentric character, picked up a board, saying, "well, boys, this board must decide our course," at the same time placing it in an upright position, "if it falls towards the north, we are safe and will remain; if to the south, we must be off." The board fell towards the south, and thus by common consent, shaped their plans; and as soon as their cattle could be collected they started for Hennepin. Their cattle, however, proved unmanageable, running

towards the timber which the men wished to avoid for fear of the Indians. After chasing them for miles, they were obliged to give up the attempt, and, leaving them near Mr. Musgrove's cabin, they returned to Hennepin as they came.

Some two weeks later, the same individuals arrived at Mr. Ament's cabin, for the purpose of making a second attempt to secure their stock. Mr. Phillips retired to his own cabin, on the farm now belonging to J. G. Forristall, and commenced writing a letter, but while thus engaged, thought he heard the alarm of the Indians, and going to the door met Mr. Ament on his way to the cabin, which he had left a few moments before; the two returned together and concluded to spend the night there, seeing no sign of Indians.

During the night, a terrific thunder storm arose, the rain pouring down in torrents. One of the number remarked, that he guessed there was no danger from Indians that night. But they little dreamed that the cabin was surrounded by some thirty or forty savages, who were peeping through the cracks between the logs, and endeavoring, by every flash of lightning, to count the numbers within. Little did they, at that moment, think that in the morning one of their number would fall a victim to the foe, and the rest barely escape. But such was the case. Morning came—a morning ever to be remembered by those six survivors. Brigham and Phillips went out upon the porch in front of the building, and not noticing the trail around the cabin, nor the marks of the Indians' moccasins on the floor of the piazza, continued standing there for several minutes, engaged in conversation. At length, Mr. Phillips stepped off the porch, saying, "I will go over to my cabin and finish writing my letter," to which was replied by Mr. Brigham, "wait a moment, and I will go with you," and turning around he entered the cabin, but had scarcely closed the door, ere the cracks of many rifles were heard, followed by the shrill war-whoop, and poor Phillips lay a corpse, pierced by two balls. The Indians then rushed towards the cabin and buried their tomahawks

in the body of their unfortunate victim. Some of the survivors had the presence of mind to grasp two or three guns with bayonets, and point them through the door at the Indians, which act, without doubt, saved their lives. The savages knowing that bayonets were used by soldiers, it is supposed that, on seeing these guns, they concluded there were soldiers within, and, consequently, made a hasty retreat, leaving some of their blankets behind them, which were afterwards found in a thicket near by.

It was then thought best to dispatch one of their number to Hennepin, for troops. Young Dimmick, then a youth of sixteen or seventeen years, being anxious to go, a horse was called to the door, upon which he mounted, and in a few hours reached the fort in safety, and gave the alarm. A small company of Rangers immediately proceeded to the cabin, and found the remaining five safely harbored within its walls. They had not ventured out since the murder, but had hung out a little colored flag as a signal of distress.

The body of Phillips, undisturbed since his death, was lying in the door-yard, the face upturned: one bullet had entered his left breast, in the region of the heart, another pierced his stomach; there were marks of tomahawk strokes across one eye and upon the neck. In their haste to be off, the savages had neglected to scalp him.

A detachment of Rangers started in pursuit of the Indians; they followed their trail within four miles of the Winnebago Swamps, and then gave up the pursuit and returned to Hennepin with the remains of Phillips, which were prepared for interment at the house of Hooper Warren. A large number of soldiers and citizens attended the funeral, which took place the next day.

An additional account of this affair was communicated to John L. Ament, some years after it occurred, by a Frenchman—an Indian trader—who obtained his information from the Indians themselves. He said: "There were about sixty Indians, mostly Pottawatomies, who belonged on Bureau creek, with a few Sacs and Foxes; they had

been in the grove several days watching the return of the settlers. Their headquarters were at the sugar camp, west of Ament's cabin. They had been watching this party the day before, and intended to set the cabin on fire at night and kill all within, but it rained hard in the night, which defeated their plans. The next arrangement was to kill the party in the morning as they left for Hennepin. To accomplish this, thirty concealed themselves in a point of brush near the garden, and the other thirty close to the house. Phillips coming so close, discovered their hiding place, and was in the act of turning around to run when they shot him. The Indians did not notice Dimmick leave the cabin, and thinking themselves perfectly safe, remained in ambush until the Rangers came in sight, when they left in such a fright as to leave most of their equipage behind." When the Rangers came within half a mile of the cabin they made a halt, not knowing but it was full of Indians. One of the party made an opening through the roof and displayed a flag. Dimmick rode to Hennepin, a distance of sixteen miles, in about an hour, and the Rangers arrived about 3 o'clock.

There are some facts connected with this affair not generally known. Immediately west of Mr. Ament's cabin was the Big Sugar Camp, part of which was included in his claim. At this camp lived, during the winter and spring, a petty chief, named Meommuse, with about ten or twelve lodges or families. They and their ancestors had made sugar here for forty-two years in succession, and did not like any one settling so close to them; a bad feeling existed, and, to make the matter worse, Ament killed one of their dogs, and through revenge they made this attack.

I have frequently talked with Mr. Ament on this subject, and he thinks this conjecture quite probable.

GOVERNOR'S DISPATCH.

At the time of the Black Hawk war the United States troops were for sometime quartered at Dixon's Ferry. Governor Reynolds found it necessary, while there, to send a dispatch to Fort Wilburn, on the Illinois river, where the State troops had collected.* He applied to General Atkinson for assistance in getting some one to carry it. The General rode through his encampment, calling for some one to volunteer his services, but no one came forward. Even veteran soldiers, who had made war their profession, would not undertake the perilous journey, as it was thought the whole country was full of hostile Indians.†

As the Governor was about to despair of getting his dispatch carried, Dad Joe—(of Dad Joe Grove) who was at Dixon's Ferry, having fled there for protection from the Indians, said to his son, a lad of fifteen years, "Joe, put the saddle on Pat, and carry these papers to Fort Wilburn." To do this he was obliged to travel a distance of forty-five miles through an unsettled country, without any road or land marks to guide the traveler except groves or points of timber. As the boy left, his father said to him, "Keep away from the timber as much as possible, and be careful not to get into trouble with the Indians. And see that the saddle does not hurt Pat's back." The dispatch was safely delivered that same day.

* The dispatch above referred to, was an order from the Governor to the State troops, quartered at Fort Wilburn, to march forthwith to Dixon's Ferry, to reinforce the regular army in pursuit of Black Hawk. A few days before this, Stillman was defeated at Old Man's Creek, and it was thought the Indians were collecting a large force not far from that ill-fated battle field.

† Some days before this occurrence, fifteen persons were killed on Indian Creek. The Rev. Adam Paine, who for years had been preaching among the Indians, was murdered by them; his head was severed from his body and carried off as a trophy. His flowing beard, being over two feet in length, black and thick, gave him a very singular appearance. Mr. Winter, a mail contractor, was also killed by them; and many others, about this time, fell victims to their savage brutality.

Years afterwards, Gov. Reynolds was frequently heard to speak of this affair as being one of the most brilliant exploits of the war. There is probably not an old settler now living in this county who has not often seen Dad Joe riding a dark sorrel horse, fat and sleek, with foxy ears, a star in the forehead, and a big scar on the flank. This was "Old Pat," which Joe rode when he carried the Governor's dispatch.

KILLING OF THREE FAMILIES BY THE INDIANS.

Although this tragedy occurred outside the limits of this county, it is nevertheless identified with its early settlement, as one of the ill-fated families, that of Mr. Hall, lived here before this occurrence, and the surviving members of it afterwards; also, Henry George, who was killed at the same time, was a citizen of Bureau settlement.

William Hall came to this county in the fall of 1830, and made a claim where the village of Lamoille now stands. This claim he sold to Aaron Gunn, and in the spring of 1832, he moved to Indian Creek, twelve miles north of Ottawa. A few weeks later he and part of his family were killed by the Indians. The following account of this affair is taken from the statement of the surviving members of the family:

William Daviess had made a claim on Indian Creek, and commenced building a mill; he had also built a blacksmith shop, being a blacksmith by trade. The families of Hall and Pettigrew were living in the house with him, having moved there for their better security against an attack by Indians, as rumors were afloat of their intended outbreak. Two days before, Shaubena, a friendly Pottawatomie chief, had notified the settlers of their danger, and they had all left for the fort at Ottawa, except the families above referred to. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon of May 21st,

1832, a party of Indians, about seventy in number, were seen crossing the dooryard fence close to the house. Mr. Pettigrew attempted to shut the door, but was shot down in the act of doing so. The savages rushed into the house, killing women and children with their tomahawks and scalping knives. The men were at work at the blacksmith shop, a few paces from the house, and were not aware of their danger until the Indians were right upon them. William Hall and William Norris were killed instantly. Henry George jumped into the mill dam. but was shot while swimming across it. William Daviess defended himself for some time, using the breech of his gun over the heads of the savages, but was overpowered and killed. John W., son of William Hall, ran and jumped off the creek bank, and as many shots were fired at him the Indians supposed him killed and did not follow. He kept along the bank out of their sight, and by that means made his escape. Three young men, Edward and Greenberry Hall, and a son of William Daviess, were at work in the field. They fled at the first alarm, and succeeded in reaching the fort at Ottawa in safety. The Indians, after completing their work of horror, leaving fifteen dead bodies scalped and dreadfully mutilated, took with them a number of horses belonging to the murdered families, also clothing, provisions, and everything they could use. They shot cattle and hogs, and even chickens in the barnyard did not escape their fury.

Two daughters of William Hall—Sylvia, eighteen, and Rachel, sixteen, years old—were taken prisoners. An account of their captivity, based upon statements made by themselves, is given below.

CAPTIVITY OF THE HALL GIRLS.

When the work of massacre, referred to in the preceding sketch, was complete, four Indians took the girls, one hold of each arm, and hurried them off as fast as pos-

sible through the timber for about two miles, to where they had their horses tied. Here they were placed on horses, two Indians riding by their side, having hold of the bridle reins to prevent their escape. In this way they rode with all speed until about midnight, when they halted to let their horses rest and prepare some food. After resting two hours they again went on their journey, urging their horses all the while into a fast trot (as they appeared to be afraid of being followed by the State troops that were collected at Forts Wilburn and Ottawa.) The next night, after dark, they arrived at Black Hawk's camp, at the four lakes near where Madison City (Wisconsin) now stands, traveling a distance of ninety miles in about twenty-eight hours. On the arrival of this war party in camp, there was great rejoicing at their good success. The next morning they painted the girls' faces, one part red and the other part black, and marched them around the encampment, followed by a large band of warriors with music, until, coming to a large white pole set into the ground, on which were hung the scalps taken in the late expedition, they caused the girls to lie down with their faces to the ground. The warriors then commenced singing war songs and dancing around them, flourishing their weapons and yelling in a most horrid manner. These dances were repeated once or twice a day during their stay with them.

The girls were adopted by the wives of a chief, and were kindly treated — always furnished with the best food and lodging the camp afforded, and when the Indians moved their encampment, were supplied with horses to ride. One day while the warriors were dressing scalps by stretching them on hoops, the girls recognized that of their mother by the color of the hair.

Mr. Gratiot, the Indian agent, and General Dodge, employed four friendly Winnebago Indians to buy these girls from the Sacs and Foxes, which they succeeded in doing by giving for them forty horses and a few trinkets. But here a difficulty arose: a young warrior claimed Rachel as his prize, and was unwilling to give her up. It

was finally compromised by giving him ten additional horses to have him release his claim. In parting with her he took his scalping knife and cut off a lock of hair to keep as a trophy of his warlike exploits. Some time afterwards, among the Indians killed at the battle of Buffalo Grove, this same young warrior was found, with this lock of hair braided around his neck.

The girls, after their liberation, lived with their brother in this county. Sylvia married William Horn, and now lives in Nebraska. Rachel married William Munson, and is at present at Freedom, in LaSalle county. The Legislature gave them a quarter section of canal land at Joliet. Congress also made an appropriation for them.

The other survivors of the Hall family, and also of the Daviess family, lived many years in this county. Edward Hall made a farm in the town of Hall, where W. H. Munson now lives, but went to Oregon some years ago. John W. Hall lived on a farm now occupied by J. Seaton, in the town of Selby; he is at present living in Nebraska. Greenberry Hall settled four miles north of Princeton, where W. H. Holladay now lives; he moved to Iowa many years ago.

PROGRESS OF SETTLEMENT.

In 1828 there were but three families living in this county; in 1829, nine; in 1830, fifteen; in 1832, thirty. As late as the spring of 1836, there was no one living in Fairfield, Manlius, Mineral, Neponset, Macon, Gold, Wheatland, Greenville, or Westfield. There was but one family in Milo, one in Walnut, one in Ohio, four in Berlin, five in Bureau, and about as many in Concord and Clarion. The dwellings were all log cabins, built close by the side of the timber. The county contained but one meeting-house, but two or three school-houses, and but one or two surveyed roads, with not a stream bridged. Indian trails were visible everywhere, and were traveled by whites

as well as Indians. The large prairies in this county were in a state of nature, part of which were not surveyed, and belonged to the Government. The opinion of many persons at that time was, that they would always remain vacant, as they could not be settled without timber, and would be valuable only as grazing grounds for horses and cattle. The same persons, traveling over them now, would be surprised to find them fully occupied with well-fenced farms, go which way they will, and the whole landscape dotted over with fine houses, large barns, and thriving orchards. In the wheat and corn fields of the present they would scarcely recognize the beautiful rolling prairie, all covered with grass and flowers, of thirty years ago.

In 1837 a citizen of this county was a candidate for the Legislature. His opponent alleged that he was not a man of good judgment because he had entered land and made a farm out on the prairie. He was also accused of having expressed a belief that at some future day these prairies would all be made into farms, and railroads be built across them, and the steam whistle heard instead of the howling of wolves. Many thought him a visionary man, and consequently he was beaten in the election.

During the summer of 1836, there was a large emigration to this county. Provisions were brought up the river, to supply the demand. Emigrants that came by water mostly brought a supply with them. Flour was worth $16 per barrel; Corn was brought up the river in sacks, and sold for $1 per bushel; Wheat sold for from $2 to $3 per bushel. In 1837–8, there was a surplus in this county, but it found a ready sale to the Rock River people, who commenced settling there about this time. In 1839–40, wheat and pork were shipped down the river. Some of the farmers hauled their produce to Chicago, and loaded back with goods and lumber. In 1842–3, wheat of the best quality was only worth 25 cents cash, or 31¼ cents in goods, delivered at the river; pork, net, $1.50 per 100 pounds, delivered at Lake Dupu or Hennepin.

The settlement of the county was very slow from 1837 to 1850. About the latter time the subject of building railroads began to be agitated. People came here from all parts of the world and settled on the prairies. Some would commence improvements, take out a pre-emption, which was good for one year, and when that would expire, if not prepared to enter their land, they would get it entered on time, with a land warrant, and pay for it with grain raised off the land. Some of the most wealthy farmers in the county commenced this way some years ago.

About 1850, the old plan of fencing with rails was abandoned, and wire, board, and hedge fences were introduced. Many other improvements in farming were introduced about this time. Previous to 1836, the old-fashioned wooden mould-board plows were in use; some years after, the cast mould-board was used; in 1840, the steel plow took their place. As late as 1837, the prairie was all broken with big plows on wheels, four yoke of oxen being generally used. About this time, one Flavel Thurston, of Wyanet, introduced the small two-horse plows. While making his plow, the people laughed at his folly, and ridiculed the idea of his breaking prairie with a span of horses, but were much surprised to see his old grays walk right off with it, breaking from one and a half to two acres per day.

FORMATION OF BUREAU COUNTY.

During the winter of 1836–7, the people of Bureau began to agitate the subject of forming a new county. The great distance of part of the settlement from the county seat, and the river, at some seasons of the year, overflowing its banks, making it almost impossible to get to Hennepin to transact business, rendered the division a matter of absolute necessity.

A petition was forwarded to the Legislature, and on the 28th of February, 1837, an act was passed creating the county of Bureau, fixing its boundaries as it now stands, except the towns of Milo and Wheatland, which were afterwards added on the formation of Stark and Marshall counties. The provisions of the act were not to be carried into effect, however, unless a majority of the voters in the county approved of it. The election came off on the first Monday in April, and was one of the most exciting ever witnessed in the county. On the west side of the river, and within the prescribed limits of Bureau, the people voted *en masse* for, while the east side voted against, the proposition. It was carried by a majority of 30. When the result was known, there was great rejoicing by the citizens of Bureau. In Princeton, there were firing of guns, bonfires, torchlight processions, and other tokens of joy. On the east side of the river, especially at Hennepin, the feeling was very different; they contended that the election was fraudulent and unfair, and by that means they had been cheated out of their rights.*

Three commissioners were appointed to locate the county seat. They met in May, and located the same at Princeton. An election was held on the first Monday of June following, when Robert Masters, Arthur Bryant, and William Hoskins, were elected County Commissioners; Cyrus Langworthy, Sheriff; Thomas Mercer, Clerk; and John H. Bryant, Recorder.

* On the day of election Hennepin sent a delegation to Princeton to guard the polls and challenge voters. They soon got into an argument with those having different views of the matter; all parties got very much excited, and they finally left in disgust for Hennepin, and said every boy of sixteen, and some women dressed in men's clothes, had voted. There is no doubt that many illegal votes were cast on both sides of the river; but it was contended that the end to be obtained would justify the means. The author of these sketches, although a minor, was forced into the ranks and compelled to vote. It was some years afterward before this county could poll so large a vote as on that occasion.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE COUNTY.

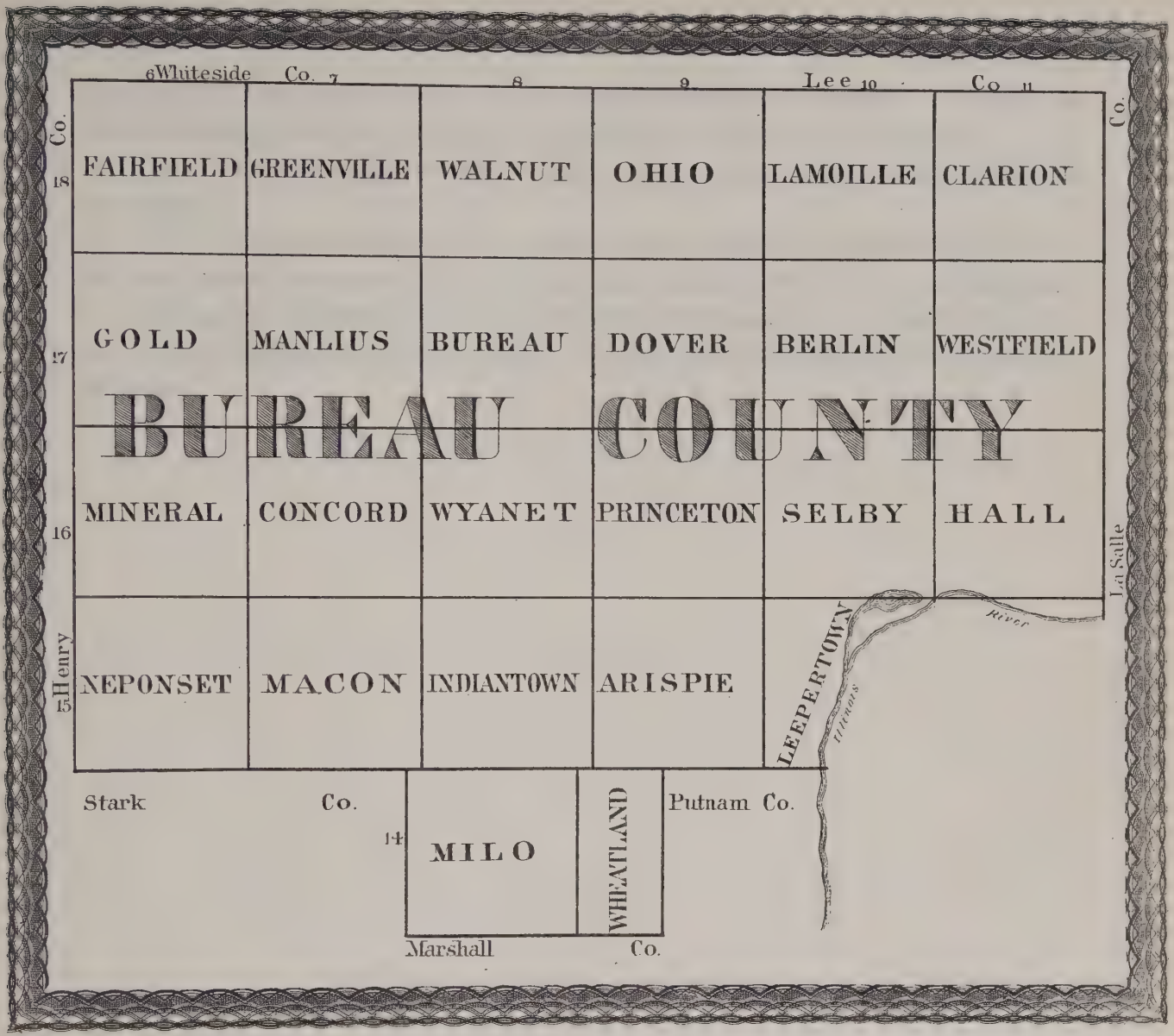
This county is bounded on the north, for a distance of twelve miles, by Whiteside county, and twenty-four miles by Lee county; on the east, for nineteen miles, by LaSalle county, and fourteen miles south-east by the Illinois river; six miles on the south, and six miles on the east, by Putnam county, and nine miles on the south by Marshall county; six miles on the west, and eleven and a quarter miles on the south, by Stark county, and twenty-four miles on the west by Henry county;—making the boundary line one hundred and thirty-one and a quarter miles in length.

It contains twenty-three whole and two fractional towns, 864 square miles, and 552,960 acres of land, about one-ninth of which, or 61,440 acres, were originally timber.

As a general thing the land throughout the county lies high, being elevated above the principal streams from one to three hundred feet. The greatest elevation is in sections two and three, town of Ohio—supposed to be about 350 feet above the valley of the Illinois river.

The line that divides the waters of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers enters this county not far from the north-east corner of Ohio, running south-west through Ohio, Walnut, Bureau, Manlius, and Concord; thence south-east into Indiantown, around the head of Coal creek; thence north of west, through Macon and Mineral, to the head of the east branch of Spoon river; thence south-east, around the head of Mud creek; thence south of west, through Neponset, to the county line;—making a line of about sixty miles in length. Part of the way along this dividing line there is a ridge; at other places the land is low, and not unfrequently the water-courses cross it, running both ways within eighty rods of each other.

A large portion of the county is drained by Bureau creek and its tributaries.


6 Whiteside Co.
7
8
9
Lee
10
Co
11
Co.
18
FAIRFIELD
GREENVILLE
WALNUT
OHIO
LAMOILLE
CLARION
17
GOLD
MANLIUS
BUREAU
DOVER
BERLIN
WESTFIELD
BUREAU COUNTY
16
MINERAL
CONCORD
WYANET
PRINCETON
SELBY
HALL
La Salle
15 Henry
NEPONSET
MACON
INDIANTOWN
ARISPIE
LEEPERTOWN
Illinois
River
Stark Co.
14
MILO
WHEATLAND
Putnam Co.
Marshall Co.

Big Bureau has a channel in this county of about fifty miles in length; its current is rapid, affording good mill privileges at almost every mile of its entire length.

Coal banks and stone quarries are found in the central and southern portions of the county.

On the Illinois and Green rivers there are some swamp or overflowed lands. In the west part of the county there are some sand knolls, bowlder rocks, and marshes.

The general character of the land throughout the county is high and rolling, the soil rich and productive, while for beauty of landscape it probably has no superior in the State.

FAIRFIELD.

Population, 653.

In this town there is much good farming land, although not of as good quality as the eastern and central portion of the county. In the south and east parts there is some swamp land. This town contains a fair supply of timber, some of which is of a good quality.

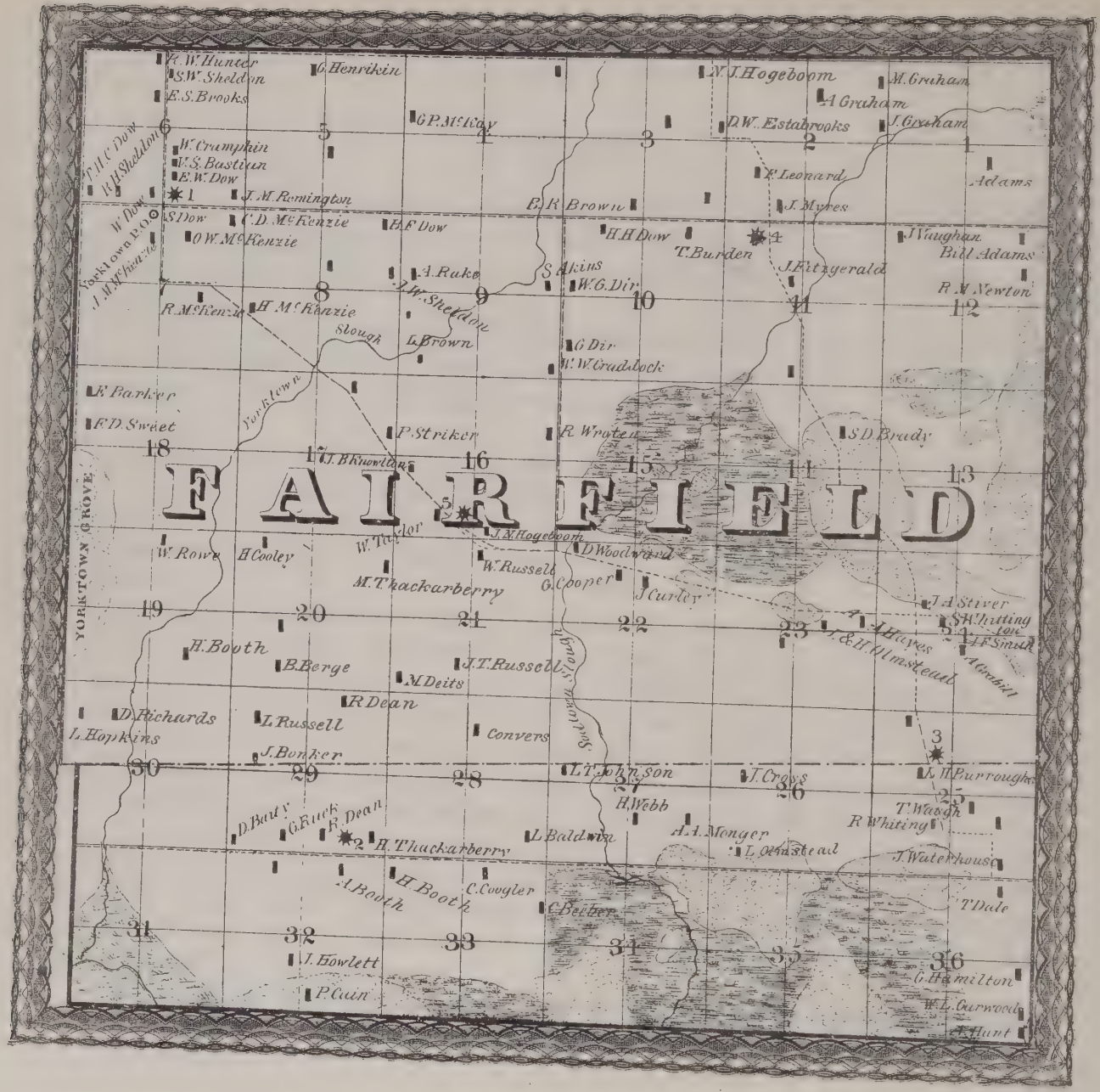
When Green river is high, the water runs into Fairfield on Section 1, and passes through the central portion of it, along Sodtown slough, and again enters the river on Section 3, in Gold. A dam is in contemplation of being built to prevent this flow of water.

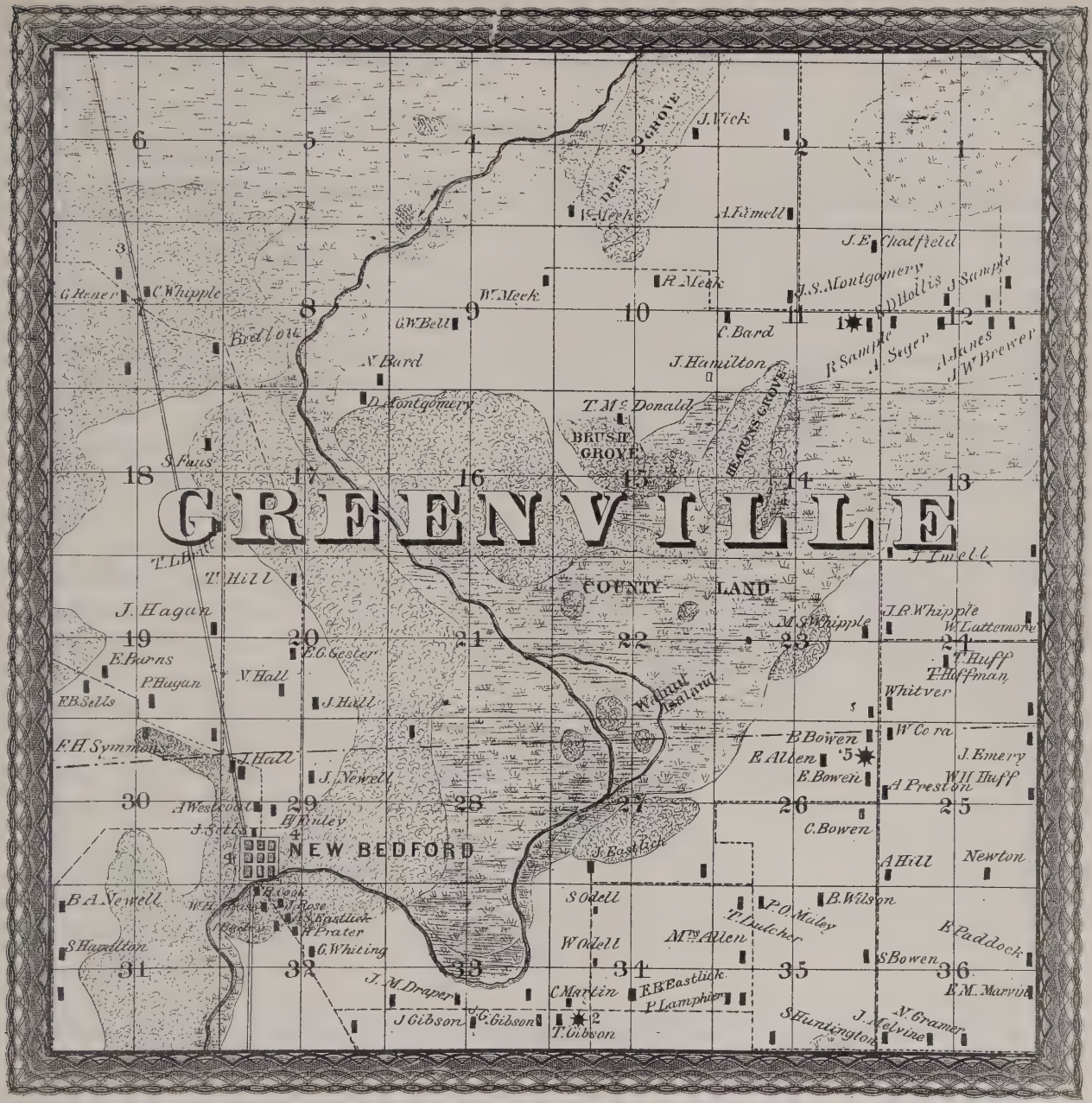
In 1852 the surveys of the swamp lands were made in this county. At that time much of the land in Fairfield was unentered, and it was the object of the surveyor to claim for the county as much land as possible. In order to do this, he returned a large tract along Yorktown slough as swamp land; much of this tract is now under cultivation.

Yorktown post office is located in the north-west corner of the town.

For many years after settlement had been made in the central portion of the county, this town, as well as the adjoining ones, remained vacant and unoccupied, without a house or a cultivated field, and was only visited by hunters and trappers. It remained in this condition until 1838, when Francis Adams and James D. Bingham made claims on Sections 23 and 24. The next year Samuel D. Brady settled on Section 14, where he now lives, and consequently is the oldest settler now living in the town. In 1840, William Adams settled on Section 12, the farm now occupied by him. In 1842, Jacob Sells, Elijah Olmsted, Daniel Davis, and Lewis H. Burroughs, became residents of this town. In 1846, the settlement of Yorktown was commenced. Among the first that came there were W. and S. Dow, R. H. and S. W. Sheldon, and the large family of McKinzies.

M. A. Myers, H. Hays, D. Baity, Wm. H. Chase, Alden Booth, and Henry Thackerberry, were among the early settlers.


FAIRFIELD
YORKTOWN GROVE
Yorktown
Slough
Sodawell Slough
C. W. Hunter
S. W. Sheldon
E. S. Brooks
C. Henrikin
G. P. McKay
W. Crumpkin
U. S. Bastian
E. W. Dow
J. M. Remington
S. Dow
C. D. McKenzie
O. W. McKenzie
B. F. Dow
A. Rake
H. M. McKenzie
R. McKenzie
L. Brown
J. W. Sheldon
S. Akins
W. G. Dir
G. Dir
W. W. Cruddock
H. H. Dow
T. Burden
N. J. Hogeboom
M. Graham
A. Graham
D. W. Estabrooks
J. Graham
F. Leonard
J. Myres
E. R. Brown
J. Vaughan
Bill Adams
J. Fitzgerald
R. W. Newton
Adams
E. Parker
F. D. Sweet
P. Striker
R. Wroten
S. D. Brady
T. B. Knowlton
J. N. Hogeboom
D. Woodward
W. Rowe
H. Cooley
W. Taylor
W. Russell
M. Thackarberry
G. Cooper
J. Curler
J. A. Stiver
S. H. Whiting
J. F. Smith
A. Grazier
T. & H. Olmstead
A. Howes
H. Booth
B. Berge
J. T. Russell
M. Deits
R. Dean
D. Richards
L. Hopkins
L. Russell
Convers
J. Bonker
L. T. Johnson
J. Cross
L. H. Burroughs
H. Webb
T. Waugh
R. Whiting
D. Batty
G. Ruck
R. Dean
H. Thackarberry
L. Baldwin
A. A. Monger
L. Olmstead
J. Waterhouse
A. Booth
H. Booth
C. Coogler
C. Beiber
T. Dale
J. Howlett
P. Cain
G. Hamilton
W. L. Garwood
Hunt


GREENVILLE
NEW BEDFORD
DEER GROVE
BRUSH GROVE
BEAMS GROVE
COUNTY LAND
Walnut Island
J. Vick
A. Limell
J. E. Chatfield
J. S. Montgomery
W. Hollis
J. Sample
R. Sample
A. Seger
A. Jones
J. W. Brewer
C. Bard
J. Hamilton
W. Meek
R. Meek
G. Bell
N. Bard
D. Montgomery
T. Mc Donald
J. Limell
J. Hagan
T. Hill
J. R. Whipple
M. Whipple
W. Lattemore
E. Burns
E. G. Gester
N. Hall
P. Hagan
E. B. Sells
J. Hall
F. H. Symmons
J. Newell
W. Cora
E. Bowen
E. Allen
J. Emery
A. Preston
Wm Huff
T. Huff
T. Huffman
Whitver
C. Bowen
A Hill
Newton
B. A. Newell
S. Hamilton
G. Whiting
S. Odell
W. Odell
Mrs Allen
P. O. Muley
T. Dutcher
B. Wilson
E. Paddock
S. Bowen
E. M. Marvin
J. M. Draper
C. Martin
E. B. Eastlick
P. Lamphier
J. Gibson
C. Gibson
T. Gibson
S. Huntington
J. Melvine
N. Gramer
E. Eastlick
A. Westwood
H. Finley
J. Sells
A. Cook
W. H. Rose
S. Eastlick
H. Prater
G. Whiting
G. Heuer
C. Whipple
Bedford
S. Faus
T. L. Hill

GREENVILLE.

POPULATION, 832.

This town has a large amount of swamp land, about 3,000 acres of which are overflowed at high water. The part east of the river contains a fair quality of land. In some places the soil is light, and bowlder rocks appear above the surface. It has a good supply of timber, part of which is of an excellent quality. Green river in some parts of this town loses its channel, and spreads out into a large marsh. Many years ago a boat was built for the purpose of getting timber out of this marsh; this boat made many trips from the mouth of Walnut creek to groves out west, loading back with rails. On Section 29, at New Bedford, the high land on both sides comes to the river, which forms a current in the stream. Some years ago, Jacob Galer built a mill at this point, which was in operation but a short time, the dam causing a large tract of land above to overflow.

In October, 1836, Henry Thomas entered the land where New Bedford now stands. This was the first land entered in the west part of the county, except a few tracts at French and Coal Groves. In 1837, a State road was laid from Hennepin to Prophetstown, on Rock river, crossing the river where New Bedford now stands. Henry Thomas established a ferry at this point, and the place was known for some years as Thomas's Ferry. A short time previous to this, Cyrus Watson built a cabin here, and was surprised when he discovered that he had located south of the Indian boundary line, and on land already entered. He moved his claim to Section 20, the same farm now belonging to E. G. Jester. Mr. Watson was the first white man that ever lived on Green river. In 1839, Daniel, James and William Hill, and Peter McDonald, settled on Sections 20 and 29. In 1840, Joseph Heath, Joseph Caswell, Justus Hall, and Thos. Hill, settled in this vicinity. In 1841, Milton Cain made a farm south of the river, and Norman Hall, Jos. N. Kise, and Wm. Britt, located north of it.

Three Frenchmen, named Green, Battis, and Charley Shane, lived for some time on Section 15, in Brush Grove. They were hunters and trappers. Caleb Rice afterwards lived at the same place. A. H. Janes, J. Eastlick, Richard Meek, S. Upson, J. M. Draper, J. S. Montgomery, and P. Lamphier, were among the early settlers.

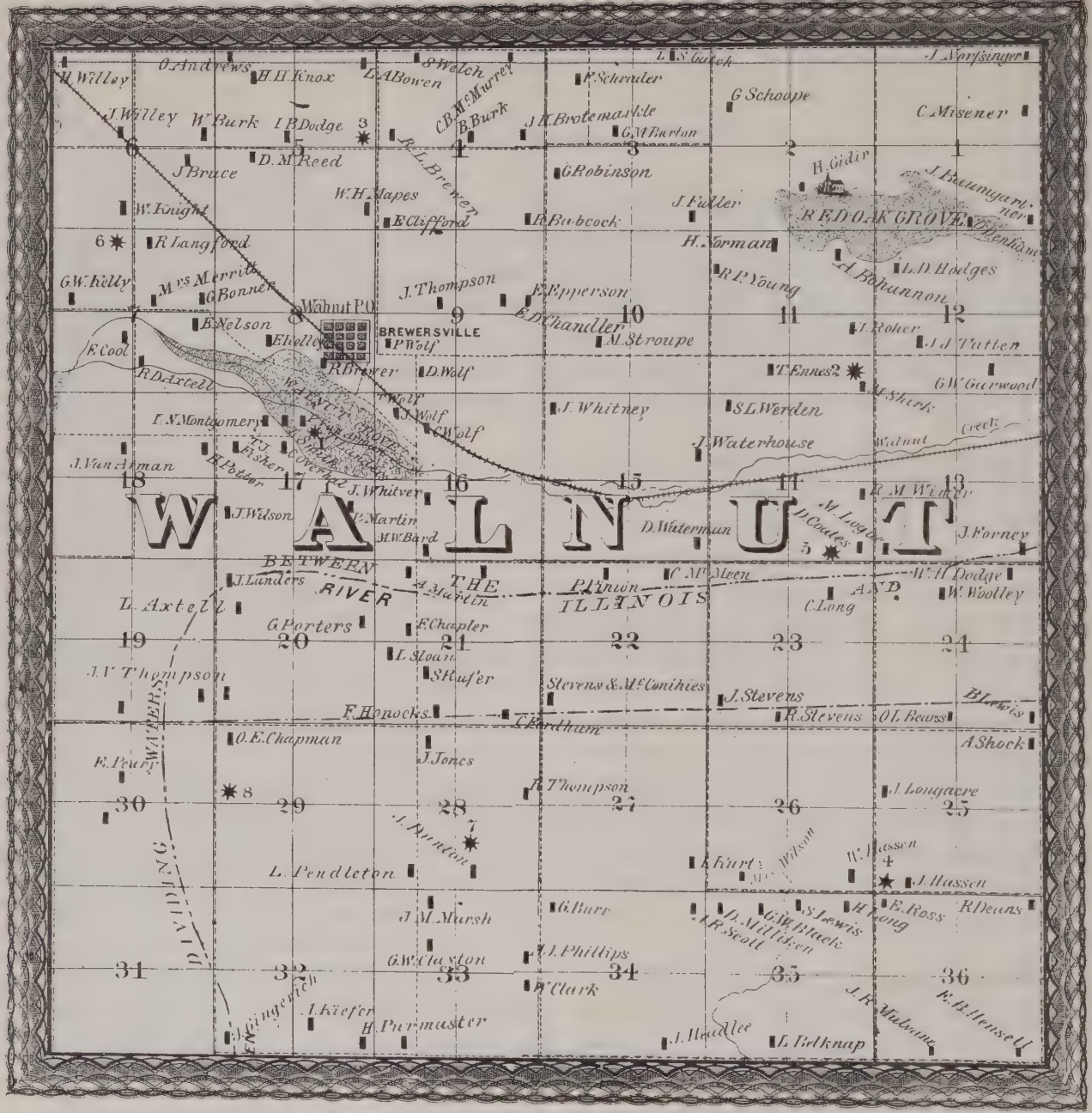
WALNUT.

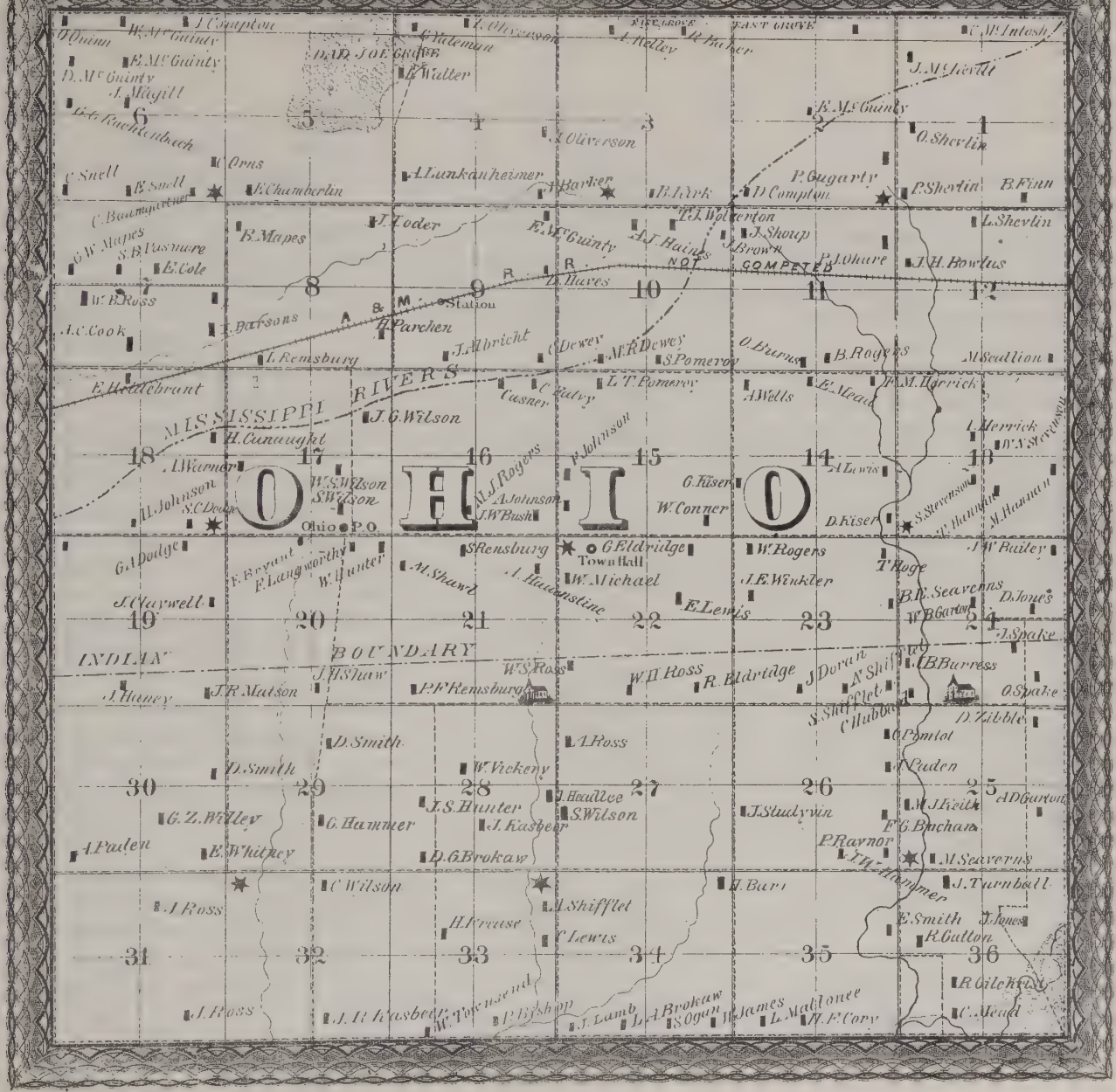
POPULATION, 1,184.

The town of Walnut is about an average of the west part of the county. It contains much good land. In some places the soil is light, with here and there a sand knoll. On low land and along the sloughs, bowlder rocks occasionally appear. Walnut and Red Oak Groves include all the timber in the town. These groves, while in a state of nature, were very beautiful, consisting of an excellent quality of timber; but of late much of it has been cut off. Walnut creek is the only stream in this county of any size, that runs to the west. Walnut post office in this town is located at Brewersville.

In the spring of 1828, three young men, Edward, Justus, and John L. Ament, made a claim and built a cabin at Red Oak Grove, where O. Denham now lives, which was the second house built in the county. At that time the Peoria and Galena road passed through this grove, and Ament's cabin was used as a house of entertainment. For twelve years no other house was built in the town. In the spring of 1831, this claim was sold to James Magby, and in 1833 James Claypoll became the owner of it. In 1836, Luther Denham came into possession of it, and resided here for some years; it was afterwards, for some time, occupied by renters. During the summer of 1836, a long, lean Yankee (name not recollected) made a claim, built a house, and broke some prairie, on the south side of Walnut Grove. The next winter, Greenberry Triplett and A. H. Janes "jumped" his claim, and lived here for some time. Some years afterwards, Truman Culver came into possession of this claim. In 1843, Oliver Janes settled on the south side of Walnut Grove, Richard Brewer on the north side, and Peter McKnitt on the east side. About the same time, Richard Langford settled here, and in 1845, Thomas Landers became a resident of this town. E. Kelly, Thomas Fisher, and George Smith, came here in 1847.

S. McKnitt, R. D. Axtell, Mr. Slack and Mr. Bohannon, L. D Hodges, J. and P. Van Arman, and the large family of Wolf, were among the early settlers. Richard Brewer is the oldest settler now living in the town.


WALNUT
BETWEEN THE RIVER AND ILLINOIS
DIVIDING WATERS
BREWERSVILLE
Walnut P.O.
RED OAK GROVE
Walnut Creek
R. Willey
O. Andrews
H. H. Knox
Z. A. Bowen
S. Welch
C. B. H. Murrey
B. Burk
F. Schrader
G. Schoope
C. Misener
J. Willey
W. Burk
I. B. Dodge
J. H. Brotemarkle
G. M. Burton
D. M. Reed
J. Bruce
R. L. Brewer
G. Robinson
H. Gidir
J. Braunyard
W. H. Hapes
E. Clifford
R. Babcock
J. Fuller
W. Knight
R. Langford
H. Norman
G. W. Kelly
Mrs. Merritt
G. Bonnet
J. Thompson
F. Epperson
L. D. Hodges
R. P. Young
A. Bohannon
B. Nelson
E. Chandler
M. Stroupe
J. Rober
J. J. Tatten
E. Cool
R. D. Axtell
R. Brewer
D. Wolf
T. Ennes
G. W. Garwood
J. Whitney
S. L. Werden
I. N. Montgomery
J. Waterhouse
J. Van Arman
E. Potter
J. Whitver
J. Wilson
P. Martin
M. W. Bard
D. Waterman
M. Logbe
J. Forney
J. Landers
C. M. Meen
W. H. Dodge
W. Woolley
C. Long
L. Axtell
G. Porters
E. Chapler
L. Sloan
S. Houser
J. V. Thompson
Stevens & McConihies
J. Stevens
R. Stevens
O. E. Chapman
A. Shock
J. Jones
J. Longacre
J. Thompson
L. Pendleton
J. Burton
W. Hassen
J. Hassen
G. Burr
J. M. Marsh
D. Millisken
E. Ross
R. Deans
G. W. Clayton
J. Phillips
H. Clark
J. Kiefer
H. Purmaster
J. Headlee
L. Belknap
J. R. Mulvane
E. B. Hensell


PINE GROVE
EAST GROVE
DAD JOE GROVE
NOT COMPETED
Station
Ohio P.O.
RIVERS
MISSISSIPPI
INDIAN BOUNDARY
Town Hall
O H I O
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36

OHIO.

POPULATION, 1,361.

This may properly be called the premium town of the county. No other one has so much plow-land as this. The prairie is high and slopes to the south, well adapted to farming purposes, and is, at present, under a good state of cultivation — and may well be styled the granary of Bureau county. This town has less timber than any other town in the county. Dad Joe Grove is a beautiful grove of timber, containing about 100 acres, and is in a very good state of preservation. Ohio is the name of the post office.

Many years ago, when this town was all vacant except the grove above referred to, a sharp, shrewd Yankee called on me to show him vacant lands. He said he was an agent for a New England colony, that intended settling somewhere in the West. I took him into this town and showed him all over it. He appeared delighted with the land, said the colony would want about one township, and thought they would select this. We had got to a high piece of ground, not far from where Squire Falvey now lives. At this point the whole township is visible. I pointed out to him, as near as I could, where each corner was. After surveying it over and over with his eyes, he said: "I swow, if that little grove was out of the way," pointing to Dad Joe Grove, "a man could plow corn from one end of the town to the other, having corn rows six miles long, running both ways."

The first settler of this town was Dad Joe, (Joseph Smith), at Dad Joe Grove, in the spring of 1830, who, for many years, kept a house of entertainment for travelers, having but one neighbor in twelve miles. In 1836, he sold his claim to T. S. Elston, and different persons lived on it as renters; but for sixteen years no other house was built in this town. In 1846, Wm. Cleaveland built a cabin on Section 20, where Mr. Hunter now lives. About the same time, F. G. Buchan built a house on Section 3; Mr. Abbot lived in it afterwards. Charles Falvey had made a farm where he now lives, but did not build a house or move on it until some years later. In 1847, John and Andrew Ross settled on Sections 22 and 27. About the same time, Wm. Garton settled on Section 36, Leonard Strong on Section 35, and Aaron Brokaw on Section 34. In 1848, John Kasbeer settled where he now lives. In 1849, Mitchell Shifflett and Isaac Brokaw settled on Section 33, and Daniel Smith where he still lives

Wm. Cowan and Stephen Wilson were among the early settlers.

LAMOILLE.

Population, 1,587.

The town of Lamoille compares favorably with the best towns in the county, both as regards timber and prairie; it also may be considered as one of the old settled towns.

On the 19th of May, 1830, Daniel Dimmick made a claim on Section 25, on what is now called the Collins Farm. He lived on this claim until the commencement of the Black Hawk war, at which time he left it and did not return; he afterwards settled in LaSalle county. In the fall of 1830, William Hall made a claim where the village of Lamoille now stands. In October, 1831, he sold this claim to Aaron Gunn, and the next spring he moved to Indian creek, in LaSalle county; a few weeks later, he and part of his family were killed by the Indians. In the spring of 1834, Leonard Roth made a claim on the north-west quarter of Section 24, and Dave Jones on Section 26. In July of the same year, Jonathan Holbrook and Moses A. Bowen bought Aaron Gunn's claim, and became residents of this town. About the same time, Enos Holbrook and R. & P. Argier made claims on Section 25, and Joseph Knox and Greenberry Hall on Section 35. For a short time, Timothy Perkins lived on Section 25, on the claim belonging to Daniel Dimmick. In 1835, Benj. Townsend made a farm on Section 34, and Robert Masters settled close by on the same section, the farm now belonging to William Mercer. The same year, Joseph Frank settled on Section 13, on the farm still occupied by him. In 1836, Wilson Daily, and Gilbert and Mitchell Clemens, came into this town; some time afterwards, they made farms on the west side of the creek. The same year, Zenas Church settled here. Some years later, he built a saw-mill on Big Bureau, on Section 22. In the spring of 1836, Tracy Reeve and Dr. John Kendall bought the Bowen farm and laid off the village of Lamoille. Mr. Bowen had previously made a survey of the village, but had made no record of it when he sold to the parties above stated. Ziba Dimmick, E. M. Eastman, David Roth, Enoch Pratt, William Martin, Samuel and Abner Edwards, A. Blodget, Joseph and Henry Holbrook, Solomon Roth, and I. H. Norris, were among the early settlers. Jonathan Holbrook is the oldest settler now living in the town.

LAMOILLE
LAMOILLE
Brick Yard
Road
B.C. Baker
C.R. Burton
A.S. Hawks
D. Kinney
W.C. Lee
H. Faick
G. Brainard
J. Stillwagon
P. Schwenger
H. Conklin
J. Rambo
J. Hower
G. Thom
L.W. Whitney
J. Higgins
F.G. Metcalf
E. Burrell
L. Whitney
M.B. Short
T. Beard
D.W. Anderson
J. Snodgrass
J. Crossman
N.M. Callock
T. Pride
J. Heaman
J. Beard
G. Shirk
E. Beaty
S. Edwards
Nursery
G. Crossman
O. Williams
J. Fagan
J. Englehart
S. Williams
T. Reeve
C. Reeser
J. Smith
O. Willey
J. Williams
H. Anderson
A. Shirk
S. Reed
C. Wood
J. Dunbar
J.B. Dickinson
P. Stanard
J. Barnard
S. Lutts
V.O. Cressap
J. Smith
L. Marlin
J. Traylor
E.P. Edwards
A. Edwards
R. Ward
J. Minnerly
T. Traylor
J. Long
T. Warkins
A. Reed
J. O'Conner
E.B. Wood
C. Worrall
G.R. Hanks
J. Bonnell
S. Acker
C.W. Palmer
J. Perkins
J. Coldy
J.S. Chaney
M. Grady
A. Ross
J. Perkins
W. Martin
R. Chaddock
H.E. Sawyer
D. Bailey
J.N. Chaddock
T. Conrow
R. Lupton
R. Wade
G. Stevenson
A.L. Stevenson
S. Palmer
G.H. Brown
S.R. Lippencott
Bonnell's Mill
J. Flatbrak
Collins Place
G. Ingle
H. Driscoll
W. Hedge
J.H. Palmer
S. Bonnell
C. Schnockle
D.K. Belden
O. White
F.A. Burress
D. Jones
M.C. Flowers
S. Hills
H.K. Pickering
N. Hoge
L. Scott
M.A. Holbrook
J. Hall
W. Mercer
D.H. Norris
M. Cass
C.F. Bowman
P. Murphy
J. Mercer
W. Durham
J.A. Warson
J. Richmond

CLARION
PERKINS GROVE
J. Clapp
M. Perkins
J. Childs
J. Kepner
D. Erbes
J. N. Englehart
C. L. Dayton
J. Bet
S. Perkins
J. C. Anthis
H. A. Stannard
D. Stannard
S. Stanard
F. Erbes
G. Pohl
H. Kepper
W. Pollock
G. Charley
H. Truckenbrod
N. H. Johnson
S. Gibson
A. G. Porter
W. Devenport
J. Hetzler
W. P. Bruce
J. Truckenbrod
D. Wells
L. Walker
P. J. Dodge
J. Decker
A. Martin
G. Hetzler
W. & J. Marriott
B. Benton
J. Lee
J. Hopkins
H. Johnson
C. Wendall
G. W. Gheer
E. Walker
W. F. Waste
O. Risdon
T. Babson
J. Kulp
M. Dix
H. F. Liscom
W. A. Miller
J. Allen
F. Stomberger
J. Draper
J. C. White
G. Gross
O. Childs
Creek
Pope
Crawford
Freeman
G. Welsh
J. Lawler
J. Faber
F. Wendall
S. B. Johnson
G. Miller
A. Geuter
W. Graves
S. Bridge
R. L. Kendall
E. R. Igou
J. Myres
G. Blasg
M. Hopps
L. D. Nugent
J. P. Uttech
W. Billhorn
G. Walter
J. Tower
F. Frederick
H. Bower
C. Thompson
D. R. Dean
J. H. Bower
M. Stearns
J. Winters
J. McKenzie
V. Gates
H. Stanard
C. Hills
L. L. Frizzell
F. B. Maeser
J. P. Dean
J. W. Hills
Igou
H. Allen
C. Faber
W. C. Wing
G. Miller
S. Billhorn
C. Hoffman
Clarion Cemetery
C. Stipplord
J. Billhorn
D. Collins
D. Lloyd
J. Hamilton
M. S. Clark
J. M. Wilson
L. Scammon
N. T. Moulton
P. Fluher
I. Ang
Clarion Station
F. Hinkle
C. Watts
M. Frizzle
L. Grube
W. Norris
E. Avery
J. Winters
A. Winters
P. Shultz
A. Scammon
R. B. Berry
State Road

CLARION.

POPULATION, 1,196.

For quality of land this town has but few superiors, if any, in the county. The land is under a good state of cultivation, with many fine houses and barns. Perkins' Grove is a beautiful belt of timber, containing over two sections of land: part of this timber originally was of the best quality, probably as good as any in the county. Big Bureau and Pike creek run through this town, affording a good supply of stock water.

In 1842, a post office was established here, called Perkins' Grove post office, but it has been discontinued for some years.

The first settlement was made in 1833, by Timothy Perkins and family, who laid claim to all of Perkins' Grove. The first house was built on Section 8, where John Hetzler now lives. Solomon Perkins and Elijah Bevens lived in it. Mr. Harmon lived close by for a short time. In 1834, Timothy Perkins built a cabin west of the house now occupied by A. G. Porter. This cabin, when first built, attracted much attention, the roof being composed partly of deer skins. Some of the same material was used at the windows. In this cabin was celebrated the first wedding in the town. In the fall of 1834, Joseph Screach made a claim on the west side of the grove where J. Betz now lives. In the spring of 1835, Stephen Perkins settled where he now lives, and consequently is the oldest settler now living in the town. Mr. Hart settled on the west side of the grove about the same time. In 1836, J. and A. R. Kendall made a farm on Section 4, at the old Stanard place, and Joseph and Elisha Fassett settled on Sections 7 and 18. In 1837, John Clapp and Martin Hopp became residents of this town. In 1838, Hiram Johnson, Joseph Allen, Franklin Walker, Moses Dix, Winslow and W. R. Bruce, Harvey Childs, C. L. Dayton, and Solomon Williams, settled here.

Moses A. and L. H. Bowen, Theodore Babson, David Wells, A. G. Porter, and the large family of the Stanards, were among the early settlers.

GOLD.

POPULATION, 321.

A large portion of this town is swamp, and it has less good farming land than any town in the county. A few sections in the south-east part are very good. The north-eastern portion is sandy. There are some 4,000 acres in the north part, along Green river, that are overflowed in time of high water. The swamp land in the south-west part is of a good quality, some of which could be cultivated.

Gold has a good supply of timber. Long Island Grove contained the best timber in the county before it was cut off. Trading House Grove derived its name from the fact of a house being built there at an early day, which was occupied by different Indian traders. At a later day it was made the home of trappers and hunters visiting that locality. Eagle Grove took its name from an eagle's nest built on a tall tree which stood on the margin of the grove, and could be seen for miles.

Thirty eight years ago, Thomas Hartzell, an Indian trader, wrote a letter to a friend in Pennsylvania, which was published in the journals of that day. In it he says, "North-east of the trading house there is a lake of some miles in length, in which there are many islands covered with a heavy growth of timber. Indians pass from one island to another in their canoes in search of game. In low water, sage grass grows above its surface. Here muskrats build their houses, and wild geese make their nests on them." Many years ago it was not uncommon, in the winter time, to see one continuous sheet of ice for miles. Green river could be designated by a blue streak in the ice, winding like a serpent between the different islands. Of late, these lakes spoken of by early explorers, have about disappeared. The wearing down of the outlet in Henry county, the sinking of the water, evaporation, or other causes, leave it a fair quality of marsh land, which is only liable to occasional inundation.

This town was attached to Fairfield until 1852. In the spring of 1850, Samuel Mathis settled on Section 12; the same year Milton Cain built a house on Section 5, Jacob Walters on Section 26, James Limerick on Section 28, and James Neff on Section 20. In 1851, David Marple settled on Section 27, and George Detro on the same section. In 1852, Joseph Johnston settled on Section 26.

Dr. Boyden, D. Alexander, David Watkins, Andrew Marple, and the Farrensworths, were among the early settlers.

CAINS GROVE
LONG ISLAND GROVE
PADDYS GROVE
GREEN
RIVER
COLEMANS GROVE
Sable Grove
HADINGHOUSE GROVE
COUNTY LAND
GOLD
COUNTY LAND
Clapp
J. Wood
H. Hale
F. Abbett
J. West
M. M. Cabe
R. Cain
A. Mills
T. Cain
J. McRowen
G. Dutro
M. Cain
F. Barber
F. D. West
W. Smith
P. Hussey
L. M. Norton
J. Howard
E. Monks
M. Ericson
J. Colledge
T. Peebles
C. Peterson
J. D. Fisher
J. Johnson
A. Marple
A. Morrasy
H. W. Morgan
G. Peterson
F. Reeder
L. Sloughty
S. Smith
T. Smith
M. Peterson
R. A. Lathrop

MANLIUS
Truxton P.O.
HICKORY GROVE
PROPOSED ROCK RIVER FEEDER
Hickory Creek
Steele Road
Bridge
Walker
Paint Mines
R. Smith
T. Rinehart Jr
T. Rinehart
J. Mercer
Fisher & Co.
A.J. Stanchfield
J.Y. Spangler
J. Spangler
J. McColough
Wm Converse
A. Bailey
Sawin
D. Greely
J. Stowell
H. Anderson
S.A. Barber
J. Cain
M.S. Pelzer
C. Gleason
N.A. Lathrop
H.H. Aysc
E.A. Lathrop
S.C. McRune
C.W. Lathrop
J. Seible
G.W. Kipp
J. Martin
B. Wills
S. White
J. Burns
D. Weirick
W.W. Crandell
W. Sisson
J. Long
J. Trobridge
T. Templetons Estate
W. Ballous Estate
Robins
Allen
O. Smith
J. Smith
D. Watkins
H. Fisk
J. Kinsman
P. Duyer
A. Fay
S. Hatch
A.B. Kinsman
M.D.O. Carpenter
A.H. Fisk
J. Ready
D. Smith
J. Sinnat
H.S. Pittman
A.T. Thomas
C. McRune
S. Stouffer
H. Crawford
H. Rudiger
J. Ginger
J. Pulver
G. Fenn
G. Grebs
H. Brooks
H. Stiles
C. Ferris
J. Meisenheimer
L. Major
J. Lingelbach
Hunt
W. Staum
E. Hawley
L. Clark
E. Mat
D.A. Miller
A. Brower
Watson
N.N. Hewett
J. Herrick
E. Smith
S. Cain
G. Hewett
W.S. Vanorner
W. Cole
H. Horst
J.H. Hubbard
K. Hubbard
J.C. Murphy
J.R. White
J. White
W. Dabler
J. Pratley
Smith
J. Dabler
T.C. Stickell
D.F. Sackett
D. Dabler
D. Warrington
E. Franks
D.C. Stickell
W. Dramann
B.A. Smith
J. Dungan
J. Fletcher
RR Hull
J. Barton
W. Fletcher
D. Halbrook

MANLIUS.

Population, 887.

In this town there is but little timber; the prairie is about an average of the west part of the county. The land is mostly rolling and well drained; in some places the soil is light. On Sections 8 and 18 there are some sand knolls. Along Hickory creek and in the vicinity of Gooseberry Island, there are some bowlder rocks rising above the surface.

On the north-west quarter of Section 7 there is a paint mine, producing a good quality, said to be superior to the mineral paint obtained in Ohio.

On Sections 2, 11, and 14, there is a large marsh containing about 1,100 acres, called Gooseberry Island. This place took its name from the large amount of gooseberries which grew in the little groves of timber on its margin. A ditch has been made by the county (of late) through this marsh, for the purpose of draining it into Hickory creek. A fair quality of peat has been found here.

Manlius did not organize until 1854; previous to that time it was attached to Greenville.

The first settlement in this town was made in 1847, by Sylvester Barber, on the north-east quarter of Section 5, where he now lives. D. Hill settled close by, about the same time. In 1848, Allen Lathrop made a farm on the north-east quarter of Section 9, where H. Hays now lives. About the same time Charles McKune made a farm where he now resides. In the fall of the same year James Martin settled on the north-west quarter of Section 15, on the farm now occupied by him. In 1850, W. N. Hewett and Dr. Moore settled on Section 14; the same year Townsend Fletcher made a farm on Section 36, by Hickory Grove. In 1851, Thomas Rinehart settled where he now lives, and Henry Hooper built a house on the north-east quarter of Section 13.

Albert Thomas, Jesse Cain, Thomas Hope, and Jacob Seible, were among the early settlers.

BUREAU.

Population, 1,096.

But few towns in the county contain as good quality of land as Bureau. In the north part and about the head of West Bureau timber, the land is very fine, well drained and sloping to the south. In the south-east portion, between the Bureaus, the land is flat, but producing good crops. In Sections 2, 18, 19, and 30, there are some sand knolls. The timber is good, especially in Sections 33 and 34. Some years ago a saw mill was built by C. C. Corss and George Hinsdale on Section 33.

The first settlement was made by Henry Thomas, in the spring of 1828, on the north-west quarter of Section 33, the same farm which is now occupied by Elias Carter. This was the first settlement made in the county. In the spring of 1830, Ezekiel Thomas and Abram Stratton settled where they now live. About the same time, John Sherley made a claim on the south-east quarter of Section 13, on the farm now occupied by Harrison Epperson. John M. Gay afterwards lived here. The same summer Sylvester Brigham built a cabin where George Hinsdale now lives. Peter Cutwright lived in it.

In 1832, George Hinsdale settled on the farm now occupied by him. In 1833, Eli Frankerberger came into possession of the Sherley claim; and in 1836, Rees Heaton became the owner of it and lived here for many years. In 1834, C. C. Corss settled where he now lives. The same year George Bennett built a house and improved land at the head of the grove, in Section 13. After occupying it for some years he discovered that he was living on another person's land, consequently he moved his improvements to his own land, west of the grove, where Alvah Stiles now lives. In 1837, Nicholas Smith settled where he now lives, and Samuel Fay commenced improving the farm on which he now resides; at the same time Wm. M. Matson settled on the farm now occupied by Abraham Stiles.

Isaac Heaton, Abner Murphy, Sylvester S. Newton, Thomas Tilson, Jesse Pallard, G. A. Mowry, James Morrison, and J. N. Hill, were among the early settlers.

In 1830, Henry Thomas obtained a post office at his place, called Bureau. This was the first one in the county, and at that time there was no other post office within fifty miles of this place.

BUREAU
Albright
J. Meisenheimer
A. Shertz
P. Maus
D. Breed
A. Hoag
Hummel
Westbrook
L. Knight
H. Martin
J. Roggy
J. Trimble
L. Kurtz
J. Conrad
W. Hunter
R. Watson
J. Popkey
Flugler
B. Homes
C. Conklin
D. White
Stevens & McConihies
V. Cramer
C. Boehler
V. Roggy
P. Brinsmann
C. Headley
S. E. Davis
D. Robinson
J. Schwatzentraub
Johnson
Ramsey
W. Ramsey
L. S. Bartlett
J. J. Carr
Mrs B. Matson
W. Hoover
G. Crowthamer
R. Loeldl
H. L. Waterman
J. N. Hill
L. Hill
Estate of S. Young
D. Bunn
W. Daniels
Cary
G. Pumpo
Buckingham
J. G. Laughlin
M. A. Harrington
Binsely
W. A. Pierce
J. B. Dickey
L. Murphy
S. Ballard
Heuton
Ashley
H. Epperson
C. H. Knapp
T. Taylor
T. Bowen
Thurston
J. Peterman
E. Newton
Welty
C. Murray
I. R. Thompson
J. Smith
J. S. Camper
M. Boyce
C. W. Spratt
T. Lumry
Lysinger
S. L. Fay
L. E. Pryor
H. M. McElvish
J. L. Smith
Barr
F. Willmer
W. Morgan
C. Denham
G. Taylor
M. Wenzel
L. Langworthy
S. Jontz
T. Mowry
Tilson
Bryant
S. Sears
D. McArthur
J. Ballard
J. Wright
E. H. Houck
W. W. Hayes
R. Mowry
A. Stratton
J. Sirine
J. W. McPherson
J. Mann
J. Baldsberger
H. Obershelp
E. Carter
Vaughn
A. Sapp
C. C. Corss
R. Tonkinson
E. Thomas
J. Coddington
Brown
C. V. Lomax
W. Miller
J. Mowry
F. S. Adsit
G. W. Houck
T. W. Woodruff

LIMERICK
DOVER
J. Pickup
J. Mallonee
J. James
W. Wilson
I. Huffaker
S. M. Stewart
J. P. Perry
M. Coffy
P. Hensel
G. Limerick
E. Ogun
N. Bence
H. Hensel
F. Hobert
J. Berger
G. Gelgeon
H. Beerman
A. McCoy
M. Dodge
J. Hogan
J. Riley
T. Phillips
C. Vickery
J. Lyon
R. M. Marsh
Mrs Mason
J. Wilson
D. Archer
D. E. Miller
Saw Mill
E. S. James
J. Scott
G. C. Weibel
J. Johnson
G. W. Crosley
M. A. Scott
J. Taylor
H. Eggert
S. Emerson
J. Morrison
D. Goetz
R. Bauman
G. Fogelburg
S. Clark
A. M. Potts
J. L. Enyart
J. Hoyt
J. Graff
T. Nottingham
J. Stowell
C. Pierce
D. Thompson
J. Hensel
J. Brigham
O. Mead
W. Pool
J. Portefield
S. Clous
D. Chase
M. Studyvin
E. Ellis
G. Wells
E. Elfis
J. Triplet
J. Coddington
C. Stearns
J. Vanliew
J. Garvin
S. Studyvin
C. Allen
Coal Bank
J. W. Reel
W. P. Griffith
M. Triplet
J. F. Beadly
Mrs Murphy
S. Barnes
G. H. Bacon
N. Cottrell
P. M. Huffaker
G. W. Bulbuch
J. I. Gilliam
J. Hatcher
G. V. Palmer
W. R. Ramsey
J. Childs
R. Phillips
J. S. Rasbeer
J. Sawyer
S. Elliott
W. L. Linnabery
E. Emery
E. M. Matson
J. Beatty
S. R. Elliott
S. M. Oakford
A. M. Potts
J. A. Young
G. Bohlong
J. O. Hart
A. Pisele
C. Allen
E. Harris
A. West
A. Nelson
W. Harns
A. Kaur
D. Cusic
R. Hankness
A. Zimmerman
Beckmeier
Elliott Mill
R. J. Woodruff
J. Shugart
H. Eppinger
C. Lochman
J. Wolfer
J. Ellis
J. Garvin
J. Vanliew
C. Allen
J. Triplet
J. F. Beadly
G. W. Bulbuch
P. M. Huffaker
N. Cottrell
Cemetery
Fork
Creek

DOVER.

Population, 1,593.

This town is well supplied with timber, which is of a good quality—probably the best in the county. On the east side of Bureau creek, the prairie is rolling; on the west side, it is more flat, but well adapted for grass or grain. There is a mound on Section 28 which is a curiosity, thought by some to be artificial. It is covered with a heavy growth of timber. For many years, Dover was the second town in the county, in point of population, but it now rates about the sixth. There is a coal bank on Section 32, but the vein lies below the bed of the creek. From this cause, it has not been worked. In 1835, John Elliott and Thomas Epperson built a saw mill on Section 28. In 1836, another was built on Section 31, by Amos Leonard.

The first settlement made in this town, was on the farm now occupied by G. C. Weibel, on Section 13, by John L. Ament, in the summer of 1829. In 1830, Sylvester Brigham made a claim where J. Hensel now lives. In the spring of 1831, James Forristall made a claim on the farm now occupied by James Coddington. In the fall of the same year, George Hinsdale commenced a farm on the south-west quarter of Section 13, where J. Taylor now lives. In 1833, James Garvin settled on the farm he now occupies. In the fall of the same year, Greenberry Hall made a claim on the west side of the timber, on Section 32, where L. W. Holladay now lives, and D. Ellis on Section 27. In 1834, Abram Musick settled on a farm now belonging to J. T. Thomson, and started a blacksmith-shop. This was the second one in the county. In the fall of the same year, Marshall Mason, James Wilson, and John Elliott, settled on the west side of the timber, and Obadiah Britt, Thorton Wilson, and Abner Boyle, on the east side.

In the summer of 1831, James Forristall and George Hinsdale, of this town, on making arrangements to break prairie, found it necessary to have some plow irons made, and Peoria being the place to get such work done, concluded to make the trip by water. They shipped aboard of a canoe, near the mouth of Bureau, and paddled down the river to Peoria, but, unfortunately, when they got there, the blacksmith-shop was closed. They went aboard again, rowed down the river to Pekin, where they got their work done, and returned the same way they came, with their plow irons in good condition. The distance traveled, was 16 miles by land, and 65 by water, making the round trip, there and back, 162 miles.

BERLIN.

Population, 1,657.

There is probably no town in the county with better land and more costly improvements than Berlin. The prairie is both rich and rolling, and under a good state of cultivation, with many fine farm buildings and large orchards. East Bureau gives a good supply of stock water to the farms through which it passes.

The first settlement was made in the summer of 1829, by Justus Ament, on the north-west quarter of Section 18, (the same farm now occupied by James Forristall). In the spring of 1832, he sold his claim to Elijah Phillips; a few months later, Phillips was killed by the Indians, and James Forristall came into possession of it, and has resided there ever since.

In 1834, Elias Isaac settled on the farm now occupied by him. In the fall of the same year, Richard Masters came to this town and made a claim on Section 6; the next year he settled on Section 1, Dover. During the wild speculation of 1836, Mr. Masters had many roads surveyed and staked out, running in various directions through the county, and mostly passing by his own farm. These roads were never traveled except by the parties making their surveys.

In the spring of 1835, Thomas Cole settled on Section 6, where his family now lives. In the fall of the same year, J. W. Huffaker became the owner of the farm on which he now resides, Israel Huffaker settled on Section 8, where D. G. Wilson now lives, and John Wise came here about the same time.

In the spring of 1836, George Clark built a framed house on the north-west quarter of Section 19, where he now lives. This was the first house built on the prairie in the county, if we except the few built in Princeton and its vicinity. In 1837, Enos and Sidney Smith made farms on East Bureau, north-east of Malden, Martin Zearing settled where his family now lives, and Oden Smith made a farm on Section 30. The same year S. Mohler and John Bellangee settled on the farms now occupied by them, and John Durham and D. Greeley on Section 18.

I. Judd, W. E. Durham, Nathan and Peletiah Rackley, Daniel Greeley, Benj. Porter, Geo. Rackley, and C. G. Reed, were among the early settlers.

BERLIN
BERLIN CENTRE
MALDEN
State
East Bureau
C.Ogan
J.Perry
W.W.Lewis
B.Vantrass
R.S.Minkler
S.B.Rice
J.Benedict
E.Isaac
J.B.Isaac
E.B.Bellknap
W.Lake
D.G.Wilson
W.L.Isaac
H.Booth
S.C.Pierson
J.K.Olds
W.Huffaker
M.Mohler
A.Gruendike
J.M.Isaac
C.Hill
M.L.Barnhart
J.Jay
G.Jay
J.Morrison
J.G.Furnstall
J.Judd
M.Sabin
J.H.Perry
J.Julian
L.V.Self
M.Taylor
N.Van Horn
J.Smith
W.&B.F.Howell
A.Flowing Well
S.Holt
J.C.Hildebrand
G.Lawrence
W.Landon
G.C.Stocum
W.S.Evans
Avery
J.J.Strong
L.M.Ward
J.A.Pierce
H.L.Carter
H.J.Wyer
A.Reed
G.Clark
Booth
A.Bates
M.M.Fields
J.Snifflet
J.Booth
J.Bellangee
J.B.McCrabb
I.C.Gilbert
S.P.Belden
J.Yearing
H.Lewis
M.Winans
J.Cater
T.Taylor
M.Kills
S.Mohler
W.S.Dalton
G.Beal
R.Park
G.Henschl
J.Graslinger
E.Smith
C.C.Reed
H.F.Miller
J.Welsh
A.Cole
Wilson
R.Lippincott
Lang
W.E.Durham
S.Hubbard
E.N.Page
E.Bass
J.P.Rinker
W.McKinstry
J.Edwards
P.Hosier
C.Wolfersberger
J.Martin
J.M.Kinstry
H.C.Page
M.S.Hall
J.C.McKinstry
R.Corbett
H.H.Piper
J.D.Phillips

WESTFIELD
ARLINGTON
LOST GROVE
J. Kreen
W. Okey
W. P. Phillips
J. Scheuer
P. Hopp
L. M. Norris
E. Duffy
P. Flynn
W. Waugh
D. Boucher
J. Okey
D. Nichols
W. Morrison
J. Maxsin
C. Reed
E. Reed
C. Leandmyre
T. T. Larkin
A. Rockefeller
R. Milner
P. Skeffington
J. Cassidy
C. Hoover
W. Shultz
J. Leandmyre
M. Corley
Waugh
M. Holleran
P. McDonald
J. Massady
J. Demyer
Skeffington
S. & E. Seamans
M. Kennedy
J. Glassner
A. Conney
J. Omuley
J. T. Wyatt
G. Odell
M. Jacoby
J. McCreedy
M. Pendonburry
J. Jagley
M. O'connor
J. Simpson
T. Boyle
S. T. Merum
T. Ryan
P. Omuley
J. Scurr
S. Scurr
M. Welsh
M. McNally
S. H. Tompkins
J. Young
M. Eich
M. McDonald
T. M. Davis
B. Barrett
M. Thelen
Shirk
J. Smith
T. McDonald
J. McDonald
D. R. Sullivan
Rice
W. Young
A. Kennedy
M. McDonald
J. Casey
Mrs. M. Fitzgerald
W. Colebarn
T. Burress
J. Shaw
A. Barrett
G. May
D. Dana
D. Lyons
D. Cahill
P. Fouth
J. J. Sweet
A. McWilliamstead
O. T. Collins
J. Wing
J. G. Walter
J. Magorgen
H. Gray
H. Grundy
Schnabel
W. Doll
L. Miller
C. Linz
S. Ward
F. Walter
A. T. Wilson
W. Gerdine
N. Gray
J. Warner
J. V. Robinson
A. Park
F. A. Hope
O. S. Phelps
D. Cochran
J. Colver
J. Shurts
G. Wagner
H. Schutts
M. H. Williamson

WESTFIELD.

POPULATION, 1,586.

There is but little land in this town that is not under cultivation. The prairie is generally rolling, with a rich soil, and may be considered a fair average of the towns in the east part of the county. Lost Grove is a fine belt of timber, consisting of nearly two hundred acres, part of which is very good, and in a fair state of preservation; it belongs to the estate of Michael Kennedy. Some years since, a steam saw mill was built in this grove. For many years after the settlement of the central portion of this county, Westfield remained vacant, without a house or an entered tract of land except the grove above referred to, being the roving grounds of deer and wolves. It is now the home of nearly sixteen hundred people.

In the winter of 1830–31, Mason Dimmick laid claim to Lost Grove. He partly built a cabin at the south-east part, where Arlington now stands, but never occupied it. After holding his claim for two years he abandoned it. In the fall of 1834, a man by the name of Hough claimed the grove, completed the cabin, and moved into it. He soon became dissatisfied, living alone without neighbors, and without any probability, as he thought, of ever having any, and offered his claim for sale, asking twenty-five dollars for the same. In the spring of 1835, Col. Austin Bryant and Enoch Pratt examined this claim with the intention of buying it. They did not consider the price very exorbitant, but thought the timber not sufficient for more than one farm, and living alone without neighbors or schools, was not very popular in those days. Mr. Hough abandoned his claim and left the country; the cabin went to decay; and for five years no other person lived in this town.

Two young men, named A. Blodget and Mr. Lindley, claimed the grove. While they were contending for their respective rights, Benj. Briggs entered it in 1835, and in 1840 sold it to Michael Kennedy, Sen., who made a large farm here soon after. In 1840, David Roth having a contract for grading on the old Illinois Central Railroad, built a house on Section 10; the next year he sold it to Martin Corley, who still lives on it. In 1843, Daniel Cahill made a farm on Section 26, and Daniel Lyon on Section 27, where he now lives. Some years later, Geo. W. Gilson built a house on the north-east quarter of Section 8; this he sold to James Waugh. In 1847, Peter Cassady settled on Section 10, and Elijah Little on Section 17. In 1850, David Nichols settled where he now lives, and J. Aldrich on Section 4.

MINERAL.

Population, 1,216.

The land in this town is of a fair quality, and may be considered about an average of the western part of the county. In the north part there is some swamp land, but it is of a good quality. In the south-west portion of the town there is a large body of timber, being part of Barren Grove. Originally this contained about 4,000 acres, but part of it has been cut off and the land put under cultivation.

On Sections 1, 12 and 14, there is a watercourse connecting Hickory creek with Coal creek. When Hickory creek is high, the water flows into Coal creek; and when Coal creek is high, it flows into Hickory creek.

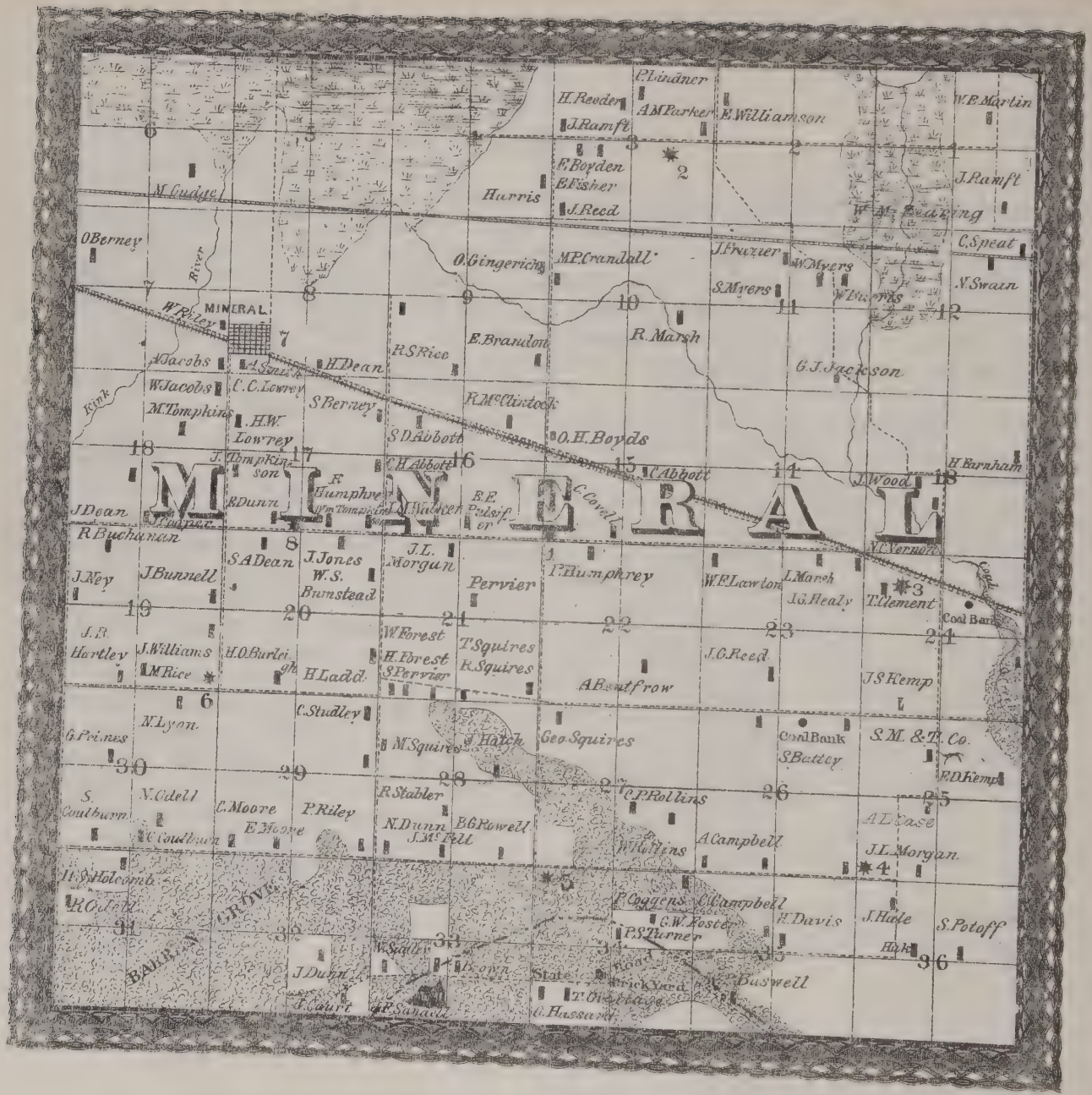
In 1834, J. G. Reed discovered a coal bank in Section 24, in Coal Grove. This was the first coal found in the county, and probably was the first discovered in Northern Illinois. The first load of coal ever brought to Princeton, came out of this bank, and was hauled by J. G. Reed, assisted by Eli Moore. West of Coal creek, on Section 24, on the railroad, there is located the most extensively worked coal bank in the county, belonging to the "Sheffield Mining and Transportation Company." There is a large quantity of coal from this bank shipped to Chicago. It has been worked for thirteen years. On Section 26, there is a coal bank belonging to Silas Batty. There are many other places in this town where coal has been found. There is no doubt but the whole earth is underlaid with one continuous coal bed, in that vicinity.

In the fall of 1836, J. G. Reed built the first house in this town, on Section 24, west of Sheffield. In 1837, Curtiss Williams settled on Section 35, at Barren Grove, on the farm now belonging to Wm. P. Buswell. In 1838, Thomas Grattidge settled where he now lives. John Clark made a farm close by, and Dr. L. Hall lived on Section 29. In 1839, James Carroll and Gardner Mills settled here. The same year George Squires made a farm where he now lives, and E. D. Kemp on Section 25.

James B. Hartly, Henry Boardman, C. Abbott, O. Hassard, Hiram Humphrey, and William Tomplinson, were among the early settlers.

The first white child born in the town was W. S. Reed, son of J. G. Reed, March 27, 1837. The first wedding party was made by David Beaver and Sylvia Williams, in March, 1838.

J. G. Reed is the oldest settler now living in the town.


MINERAL
P. Lindner
H. Reeder
J. Ramft
A.M. Parker
E. Williamson
W.E. Martin
F. Boyden
E. Fisher
J. Reed
Harris
J. Ramft
W.M. Keating
M. Cudjoe
O. Berney
River
O. Gingerich
M.P. Crandall
J. Frazier
W. Myers
C. Speat
S. Myers
N. Swain
W. Riley
MINERAL
E. Brandon
R. Marsh
R.S. Rice
H. Dean
A. Jacobs
W. Jacobs
C.C. Lowrey
G.J. Jackson
Kink
M. Tompkins
H.W. Lowrey
S. Berney
R.M. Clintock
S.D. Abbott
O.H. Boyds
J. Tompkinson
H. Abbott
C. Abbott
H. Earnham
J. Wood
J. Dean
R. Dunn
R. Buchanan
S.A. Dean
J. Jones
W.S. Burnstead
J.L. Morgan
Pervier
P. Humphrey
W.F. Lawton
L. March
J.G. Healy
T. Clement
Coal Bank
J. Ney
J. Bunnell
J.B. Hartley
J. Williams
H.O. Burlei
M. Rice
H. Ladd
W. Forest
H. Forest
S. Pervier
T. Squires
R. Squires
J.C. Reed
A.E. Leatfrow
J.S. Kemp
C. Studley
N. Lyon
G. Primes
M. Squires
Hatch
Geo. Squires
Coal Bank
S.M. & T. Co.
S. Battey
E.D. Kemp
S. Coulburn
N. Odell
C. Moore
P. Riley
E. Moore
R. Stabler
N. Dunn
J.M. Fell
E.G. Powell
C.P. Rollins
A. Campbell
A.L. Case
J.L. Morgan
H.S. Holcomb
R. Odell
BALL'S GROVE
P. Coggens
C. Campbell
C.W. Foster
P.S. Turner
H. Davis
J. Hale
S. Potoff
Hale
W. Sauer
J. Dunn
Brown
State
Brick Yard
Buswell
T. Blodgett
F. Sanford
G. Hassard
T. Court

CONCORD
DEVILS GROVE
Edicks Pond
POND GROVE
PROPOSED I
N.F. CANAL
SHEFFIELD
COAL GROVE
FRENCH GROVE
Grove
BULBONA GROVE
BUDA
Pond Cr
Prairie
Stevens
State
Road
J Baily
O.C. Tilton
Wm. Shanemger
C Spicer
Brother
L Bartels
R Hornby
G Brady
G Myers
P Parks
M.D. Curtis
A.G. Farnum
J.M. Curtis
W. Burris
J Conkling
N. Boyd
S. Blainard
H. Gebeke
W. Cummings
Steam Mill
O. Lyford
A.W. Hoblit
J.W. Mason
T. Webb
J.W. Wood
J. Hildroth
J.B. Webb
J.C. Green
D.E. Brainard
J. Hawbers
T.I. Stevens
P. Langnaker
W. Herbert
J.P. Evans
J. Churchill
E. Fifield
J. Webster
J. Wood
D. Fuller
T. Mooney
T. Stinson
E. Stevens
P. Fifield
J.H. Robins
S.M. Murray
R.L. Craig
W. Hays
O. Stevens
G. Gipe
Mrs. Murrey
F. Shoettler
D. Whittemore
C.R. Hillbrook
W. Kent
N. Lagoon
Mr. Kaufman
J.R. Sarr
P. Sarr
E.S. Phelps
R.M. Adams
J. Cecil
L. Kause
O. Oaks
J. Thorn
C. Cummings
B. Millward
J. Fletcher
N. Nelson
T. Richmond
G.P. Pettee
J. Crownover
Kinnick
F. Houghton
J. Cook
D.G. Moore
J.McDuffee
P.K. Porter
L. Vanakin
E. Vanakin
C. Fletcher
S. Buchanan
L. Blood
Hulbrook
D. Marple
G.E. Hasbrook
P. Gibson
O. Mills
J. Hamilton
A.R. Carret
C. Gipe
E. Fifield
J. Webster
J. Stevens
W. Hays
S.M. Murray
R.L. Craig
J.H. Robins
D. Fuller
T. Mooney
T. Stinson
E. Stevens
P. Fifield
J. Wood
J. Hawbers
T.I. Stevens
P. Langnaker
W. Herbert
J.P. Evans
J. Churchill
E. Wilkinson
J. Brown
G. Zank
W. Henkewitz
J.W. Sweet
L. Waterman
C.P. Mason
M.N. Hitchmore
P.D. Webb
J.L. Sweet
J. Hildroth
J. Stevens
Bourbonais
Banks
Allen
Pfield
Pfields
Mooney
Stinson
Brown
Herbert
Evans
Churchill
Wilkinson
Zank
Henkewitz
Langnaker
Stevens
Hawbers
Wood
Fuller
Webster
Fifield
Gipe
Murrey
Shoettler
Whittemore
Hillbrook
Kent
Lagoon
Kaufman
Sarr
Phelps
Cecil
Kause
Oaks
Thorn
Cummings
Millward
Fletcher
Nelson
Richmond
Pettee
Crownover
Kinnick
Houghton
Cook
Moore
McDuffee
Porter
Vanakin
Fletcher
Buchanan
Blood
Hulbrook
Marple
Hasbrook
Gibson
Mills
Hamilton
Adams
Phelps
Brady
Myers
Parks
Curtis
Farnum
Curtis
Burris
Conkling
Boyd
Blainard
Gebeke
Cummings
Steam Mill
Lyford
Hoblit
Mason
Webb
Wood
Hildroth
Green
Brainard
Hawbers
Stevens
Webb
Hildroth
Webb
Sweet
Waterman
Mason
Hitchmore
Webb
Sweet
Hildroth
Stevens
Bourbonais
Banks
Allen
Pfield
Pfields
Mooney
Stinson
Brown
Herbert
Evans
Churchill
Wilkinson
Zank
Henkewitz
Langnaker
Stevens
Hawbers
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Murrey
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Whittemore
Hillbrook
Kent
Lagoon
Kaufman
Sarr
Phelps
Cecil
Kause
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Cummings
Millward
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Nelson
Richmond
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Crownover
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McDuffee
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Vanakin
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Buchanan
Blood
Hulbrook
Marple
Hasbrook
Gibson
Mills
Hamilton
Adams
Phelps
Brady
Myers
Parks
Curtis
Farnum
Curtis
Burris
Conkling
Boyd
Blainard
Gebeke
Cummings
Steam Mill
Lyford
Hoblit
Mason
Webb
Wood
Hildroth
Green
Brainard
Hawbers
Stevens
Webb
Hildroth
Webb
Sweet
Waterman
Mason
Hitchmore
Webb
Sweet
Hildroth
Stevens

CONCORD.

POPULATION, 2,379.

This town, in point of population, ranks the second town in the county; it contains three villages, and has two railroads passing through it. The land, on the west and south parts of the town, is very good, especially on the south tier of sections, where there are large farms and fine buildings. On the northern and central portions the land is broken, with a light soil, intermixed with marsh land and small groves of timber.

In 1840, Riley & Kemp built a saw mill on Coal creek, on Section 30; about the same time John Stevens built one on Section 31, above the head of the grove. This is the only saw mill in the county, built on the prairie.

In 1833, Thomas Hartzell built a cabin in Devil's Grove for the purpose of trading with the Indians; this was used for two years as a trading house. In 1835, Caleb Moore lived in this house as a temporary residence; he afterwards lived on Section 30, at Coal Grove.

The first permanent settler of this town was Thornton Cummings, who, in 1834, made a farm on the north side of French Grove. The same year J. G. Reed settled on Section 19, at Coal Grove. In 1835, Paul Riley and James Laughrey made farms on Section 30, G. W. Reed on Section 31, Abraham Fry at Menominee Grove, and Sampson and Benj. Cole at Bulbona Grove. In 1836, John Stevens, Jesse Emerson, T. J. Stevens, and Joseph Lyford, settled on the south side of French Grove, and Moses Stevens at Bulbona Grove. John Laughrey, James Carroll, Samuel and Peter Fifield, settled here soon after.

Joseph Foster, Amos Whittemore, John Mason, Benj. and Elbridge Stevens, S. Brainard, and C. P. Mason, were among the early settlers.

The first white child born in this town was Henry Cummings, Sept. 20, 1834.

The first marriages were those of Allen Tompkins to Mary Ann Laughrey, and of G. C. Mills to Ellen Riley, in the fall of 1837. Both couples were married at the same time by Elder J. B. Chenoweth.

The Cummings family are the oldest settlers now living in the town.

WYANET.

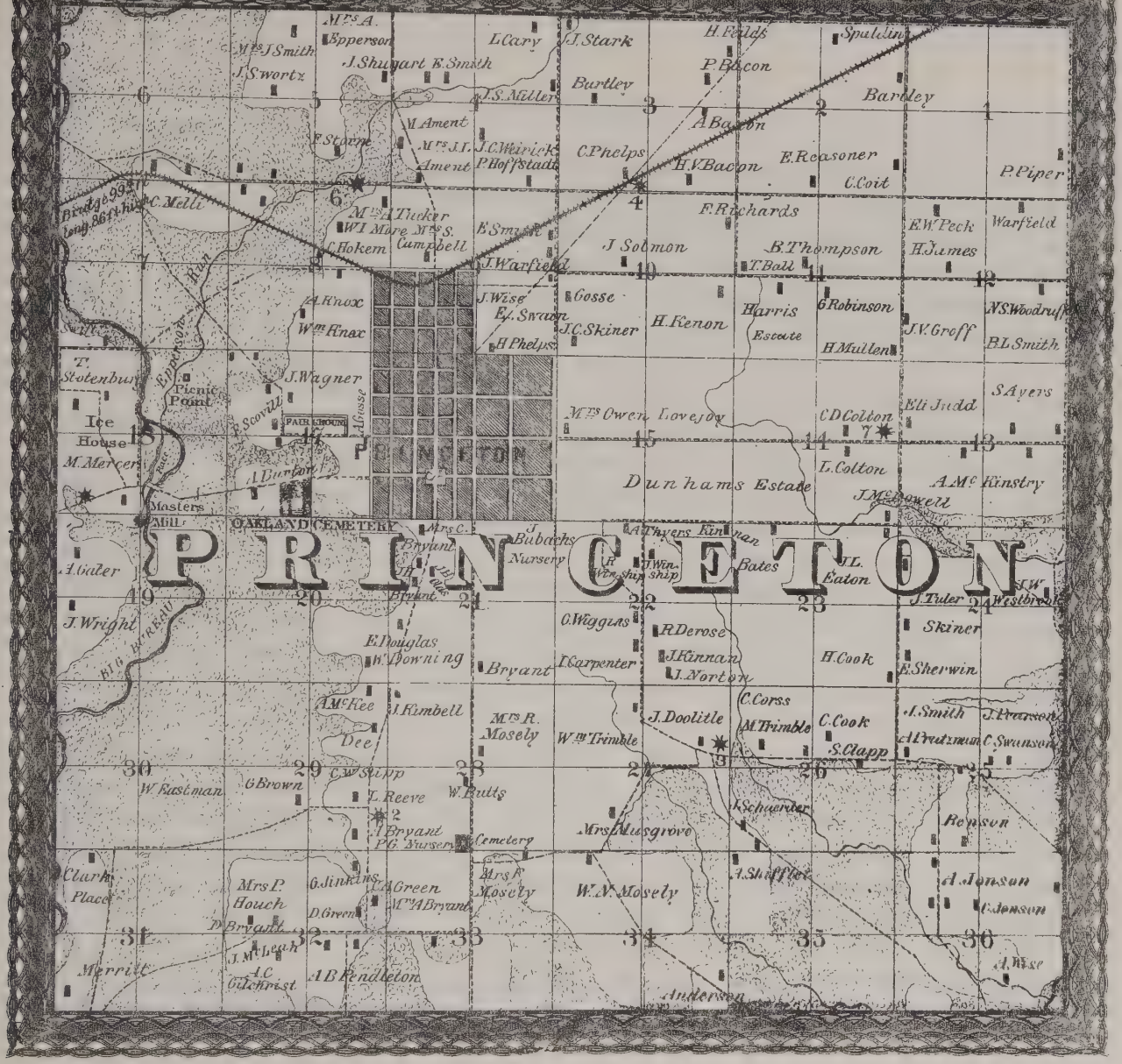
Population, 1,733.

The original name of this town was Center, but in 1866, it was changed to that of Wyanet. It contains a good supply of timber, part of which is of a fair quality. On the west side the land is rolling; on the east side, between the Bureaus, it is flat, but well adapted to grain or grass. There is a stone quarry on Section 23, but it has not been worked to any great extent. On Section 32, at the south end of Bulbona Grove, there is a coal bank. There have been four mills built in this town, none of which are now standing. The first was a saw mill, built in 1837, by Ellis Mercer, on Big Bureau, on Section 36. Some years afterwards there was a saw mill built on West Bureau, on Section 35, close by Robert Hinman, and another on Section 27, near Wm. Young. A flouring mill was built by Amos Leonard, on Section 35, where J. McFeily now lives; this mill was afterwards owned by Mr. Chilson. In 1835, Amos Leonard built a mill on Big Bureau, in Indiantown (the dam being in Wyanet); this was afterwards known as Wimple's Mill.

The first settlement was made at the south end of Bulbona Grove, where D. Jones now lives, in 1829, by a Frenchman named Bulbona: he was an Indian trader, having a squaw for a wife, and half breed children. In the spring of 1830, John M. Gay made a claim and built a cabin on Section 4, west of the house now occupied by Mrs. Allen. This claim he sold to Abram Obrist, who lived on it a year or two and then sold it to J. Allen. In 1831, Thomas Washburn made a claim west of the county farm, where L. Triplett now lives. Some time afterwards Benjamin Lamb came in possession of this claim, and sold it to James Triplett in 1834. In 1833, John Phillips settled on Section 10, and E. Chilson on the south-west quarter of Section 35, the same farm now occupied by D. Herriott. Thomas Finley settled on the same section, where J. Dysinger now lives; he afterwards lived on Section 21. In 1834, Isaac Spangler settled where he now lives, George Coleman made a claim where the county farm is now located, and Edward Triplett on the farm adjoining it on the south. In the fall of the same year, Aquilla Triplett settled on the farm still occupied by him. In 1835, Solomon Sapp, and Rufus and Lemuel Carey, settled in this town.

Wm. Allen, Edward and Ellis Mercer, Wm. Frankerberger, Thomas Clark, and Milton Cain, were among the early settlers.

WYANET
H. Sapp
Garret
J. Zigler
A. Patson
J. Petty
J. S. Spaw
Mrs J. Allen
H. Sapp
G. Smith
J. Shugart
D. Brown
J. Gray
S. Holroyd
B. Davison
J. Bradley
S. Wharton
J. Hanson
O. P. Richards
Carter
J. Crowover
J. Thurston
E. Shepard
H. Cauffman
J. L. Cauffman
J. M. Cauffman
K. Miller
Wm Holroyd
Mark Holroyd
W. S. Horton
C. B. Day
J. H. Mosher
S. Sparks
Sapp
Bureau
Mrs R. Shepard
Wm Allen
C. R. Norton
Peshokey
S. Sapp
E. Mercer
A. Fisher
Daniels
E. Dee
S. Greenamire
J. Dodge
W. W. Waller
E. Sapp
J. Mercer
C. Wilcox
C. Secrist
C. Colton
Greenamire
A. Washburn
H. McBride
S. Walters
Whitting
M. M. Thompson
Dr. Hugo
L. D. Komberger
Lifford & Cooper
H. E. Aldrich
D. W. Park
Montgomery
Kings Estate
S. M. Searl
B. Young
J. Bodley
G. Sisler
T. M. Triplett
J. Shean
A. C. Monrose
W. Hambrick
T. James
E. Fisher
J. Hambrick
I. M. Dalton
W. Triplett
Hinman
J. Welch
J. Blake
C. C. Payne
Pond Creek
W. Henry
A. J. Triplett
E. Triplett
County Farm
Cary
V. M. Arther
Nichols
W. Mount
I. H. Cass
Caldrick
Mrs Childs
Stone Quarry
Sullivan
Kenyer Grove
J. Spangler
T. Benson
A. Anderson
O. Christianson
F. Goulding
P. Young
J. Wall
W. Young
F. Hays
H. Heath
Cameron
Geo. Osthoff
F. Esresman
Mrs S. Eastman
C. Shepard
F. Brooks
H. Weaver
D. Luyman
M. L. Goodspeed
J. M. Dysinger
C. Gilman
D. Jones
Mrs J. W. Garvin
Coal Bank
J. Crager
J. Anthony
J. Miller
Mrs M. Smith
J. Allen
D. Herriott
J. M. Vanderworker
R. Hinman
C. W. Gilman
G. Friger
G. Anthony
L. Carey
P. Shawver


PRINCETON
Mrs A. Epperson
Mrs J Smith
J. Shuyart
E. Smith
L Cary
J. Stark
H. Fields
Spalding
P. Bacon
J. Swartz
S. Miller
Burtley
Bartley
M Ament
Mrs J.L. Ament
J.C. Wirick
P. Hoffstadt
C. Phelps
A Bacon
H.V. Bacon
E. Reasoner
C. Coit
P. Piper
F. Starne
Bridge 99 ft long 86 ft high
C. Melli
Mrs A. Tucker
Wl More
Mrs S. Campbell
E. Smith
C. Hokem
F. Richards
E.W. Peck
Warfield
H. James
J. Solmon
B. Thompson
T. Ball
J. Warfield
A. Knox
Wm Knox
J. Wise
Ely Swan
H. Phelps
Gosse
J.C. Skiner
H. Renon
Harris
Estate
G. Robinson
H. Mullen
N.S. Woodruff
J.V. Groff
B.L. Smith
T. Stotenburg
Swift
Eppersons Run
J. Wagner
Picnic Point
Ice House
M. Mercer
E. Scovill
FAIR GROUND
Grosse
Mrs Owen Lovejoy
C.D. Colton
Eli Judd
S. Ayers
A. Burton
L. Colton
Dunhams Estate
A.M. Kinstry
J.M. Crowell
Masters Mill
OAKLAND CEMETERY
Mrs C. Bryant
J. Bubachs Nursery
A. Thayers
Kinman
Bates
J.L. Eaton
J. Tuder
Westbrook
A. Galer
J. Wright
Big Wreath
E. Douglas
W. Downing
Bryant
I. Carpenter
C. Wiggins
R. Derose
J. Kinnan
J. Norton
H. Cook
Skiner
E. Sherwin
A.M. Kee
J. Kimbell
Dee
Mrs R. Mosely
Wm Trimble
J. Doolitle
C. Corss
M. Trimble
C. Cook
S. Clapp
I. Smith
J. Pearson
A. Prutzman
C. Swanson
W. Eastman
G. Brown
C.W. Stump
L. Reeve
W. Butts
Bryant
P.G. Nursery
Cemetery
Mrs. Musgrove
K. Schuerter
Benson
Clark Place
Mrs P. Houch
G. Jinkins
A. Green
D. Green
Mrs A. Bryant
D. Bryant
Mrs A. Mosely
W.N. Mosely
A. Shiffler
A. Jonson
C. Jonson
J.M. Leach
A.C. Gilchrist
A.B. Kendleton
Merritt
Anderson
A. Wise

PRINCETON.

POPULATION, 4,591.

Princeton has been very much favored by nature, having both timber and prairie of the best quality. Originally about one-third was timber land. This timber, instead of having the haggard appearance it now has, consisting of brush and stumps, was of a good quality, especially along the Bureau creek. Much of it has been cut off and the land put under cultivation. The farms are well improved with fine buildings and orchards, giving it the appearance of an old settled country. Picnic Point, on Section 18, and Backbone, on Section 6, are natural curiosities.

The first settlement within the limits of the town was made by Elijah Epperson, in the spring of 1830, on the south-east quarter of Section 5, on the farm now occupied by F. Stoner. In the fall of the same year Curtiss Williams made a claim, where Mrs. Cyrus Bryant now lives, and John Williams on Section 17, on the place now occupied by J. Wagner. In July, 1831, a part of what was known as the "Hampshire Colony" settled here. Among those who came at that time were, Dr. N. Chamberlin and family, who settled one and a half miles south of town, on a farm now belonging to Elijah Dee. Eli and Elijah Smith settled on Section 4, (their house was in Dover Town, but was intended as a temporary residence); Roland Moseley settled where his family now lives; John Musgrove on the farm still occupied by his widow; Christopher Corss, on the farm still occupied by him; and Daniel Smith on the farm now occupied by Mrs. A. Bryant. Hinsdale Phelps made a claim on Section 9, and John P. Blake where Arthur Bryant now lives. In the fall of the same year, Robert Clark settled on Section 31, (at the old Clark place); in the spring of 1832, Joel Doolittle settled where he now lives. In the fall of the same year, John H. Bryant settled on the farm still occupied by him, and Cyrus Bryant where his family now resides.

The settlement was called Greenfield. A post office by that name was established in the fall of 1831, it being the second one in the county, and Elijah Smith made post master. It was at first supplied with mail from Bureau post office, at Henry Thomas's.

SELBY.

Population, 1,586.

This town originally was about one-half timber. Along East Bureau and Brush creek the timber is short, and known as barrens; much of this has been cleared out and made into farms. The prairie is very good and under a high state of cultivation. In this town was built the second mill in the county; this was erected by Amos Leonard in 1831, at the foot of the river bluff, and at the head of Spring Lake, where the water tank now stands. The mill was supplied by water from a large spring that came out of the bluff above, and was called Spring Mill. On this bluff is the finest scenery in the county; Spring Lake and all of Lake Dupu, over three miles long, and the river from Hennepin to the mouth of Spring creek, a distance of ten miles, are visible.

The pioneer settlers of this town were Amos Leonard and Daniel Dimmick. In the summer of 1829, Leonard built a cabin where Brown Searl now lives, and Dimmick settled on the farm now occupied by Emerson Smith. In the spring of 1830, John Hall bought their claims and made a large farm there. In the fall of the same year, Wm. Hoskins settled where he now lives, and John Clark settled at Trenton. In the fall of 1832, Daniel Sheley bought the Spring Mill of Leonard, and John W. Hall made a claim where J. Seaton now lives, and Gilbert Kellums settled on Section 21. In 1834, the large family of the Searls came here, and in 1835, the equally large family of the Haslers settled in this town.

John Hall, formerly of this town, should have more than a passing notice in these sketches. He was known by all the early settlers as a man of more than ordinary enterprise and industry. After making a large farm on the Hoskins prairie, and selling it to Brown and Job Searl, he went on the prairie near Hollowayville and made another big farm, and built a large frame house on it; this was the first house of the kind (outside of Princeton) in the county. This farm he sold to Hasler in 1835, and again made a farm of some 600 or 700 acres on Sections 9 and 10. This he sold to Wm. B. Adams, and moved to Missouri, where he died some years since.

A negro man, with a large family, by the name of Enoch Love, settled at an early day on Section 22, and for more than 20 years these were the only colored persons in the county.

SELBY
HOLLOWAYVILLE
TRENTON
R.T. Templetons Estate
M. Thorp
P.H. Piper
M. Callihan
R.M. Johnson
L. Myre
R.D. Jacobs
P. Savage
G. Ireland
J.R. Hazen
C. Putnam
D.W. Hazen
H. Wooden
Piper
A. Scott
L. Mercer
M. Shutt
M. Brennerman
W. Hoskins
P. McKinstry
Searl
A. Reynolds
F. Welling
A.J. Miller
L. Rumph
A. Campbell
C.C. Phelps
Wheelers Estate
J. Crailer
J. York
W.B. Adams
L. May
S. Fiste
G. Heity
J.S. Searl
L. Markell
J. Markell
P. Markell
R.M. Kee
Gibons
J.N. Kise
Mrs McKinstry
J. Hoskins
R. Brewer
W. Searl
M.F. Walton
P. Doll
C. Miller
F. Wallers
F. Long
G. Hadly
E. Piper
L. Heintz
R. Johnson
W. Wheeler
C. Husler
J. Steel
P. Solman
W. Miller Hall
J. Hopler
J. Warner
W. Young
L. Heintz
F. Heintz
A. Mc Kee
C. Gridermus
S. Solmon
M. Sherman
J. Stark
J. Foster
H. Freeman
Mrs Hall
C. Stusler
W. Croisart
W. Randle
Greenfield
J. Seaton
Mrs J. Myres
J. Hasler
P. Swago
P. Savage
J. Hunter
C. Hintle
H.H. Long
E. Grinar
G. Shirtle
W. Piper
C. Hasler
H. Parman
J. Atkens Estate
H. Hasler
A. Bonebach
Coal
S. Herbotohelmer
G. Shingle
J. Banks
H. Martin
L. Osborn
J.M. Harris
P. Smith
Ring & Saw Mill
R. Hasler
B. Hasler
A. Hoffman
A. Johnson
J. Gruner
C.D. Lockhard
B. Cole
J. Lockhard
J. Allen
Mrs H. Clark
Fry
Harpa
Brush
H. Fox
N. Donaldson
J. Lawson
V. Searl
B. Searl
Wm Searl
T. Searl
J.E. Smith
Wm Hoskins
J. Hosier
H. Lockhard
Big Spring
J. Savage
W.O. Smith

HALL
L. Mishbach
L.A. Putnam
A. Lance
J. Erhart
F. Derringer
F. Lurt
J. Hauser
A. Meiliger
E. Hughes
G. Weisenberger
J. Dorn
P. Hutline
E. Colver
I. Borger
J. Colver
Lipka
R. Burres
J. Clear
S. Ross
C. Weisenberger
G.M. Nue
C.W. Combs
B.F. Line
W. Lintz
Heiteiger
J. Ganslinger
N.F. Line
J.T. Combs
M. Springer
R. Greenfield
Richmond
J. Scanlan
N. Kaster
S. Kaster
M. Hurley
T. Martin
M. Flint
J.H. Seaton
I. Lintz
A. Delany
M. Delany
T. Cranfield
Gorman
W. Ammon
D.S. Dutton
W.P. Wilhibe
D. Pipe
S. Fiste
J. Seaton
R.B. Williams
D. Shea
W.F. Huberty
P. Farrell
T. Kelly
Coal Bank
P. Herrington
E.C. Hall
State Premium Farm
Schwab
J. Aaron
Dr. Subach
G. Castendyk
J. Myrphy
W. Horn
J. Casford
E. Baker
J.G. Swan
Wm Stuart
E. Snyder
H. Ream
J. Ream
F.A. Hutchings
W. Goff
Stone Quarry
S. Mermet
LOTTVILLE
Linkee
H.W. Munson
A. Wixom
E. Griggs
J. Whitehead
D.W. Mattison
J. Walker
J. Conant
J. Rogers
J. Snyder
E. Miller
H.J. Miller
D. Hill
Coal Bank
Old Mill
S. Miller
J. Wolfer
Clark
J. Dabus
Stone Quarry
P. Wilson
P. Terry
H.W. Terry
J. Wasson
R. I. R. R.
OKLAHORNOCO
RIVER
Yellow Medicine River

HALL.

POPULATION, 1,103.

About one-third of this town was originally timber, but much of it was of an inferior quality. The prairie is good, and most of it is under cultivation, containing many well improved farms, with brick and stone houses and large barns and orchards. E. C. Hall, on Section 21, has probably the best improved farm in the county; it has been awarded the premium both at the County and State Fairs. In this town there are a number of coal banks and stone quarries, none of which have been worked very extensively. Negro creek, which runs through the town, took its name from a black man by the name of Adams, who built a cabin at its mouth in 1829.

In 1836, Samuel J. Williams and Moses Tichenor built a saw and grist mill on Negro creek and on Section 30; about the same time R. S. Skinner built a saw mill on Spring creek on Section 24; neither of them are now standing.

In the fall of 1828, Reason Hall made a claim and built a cabin on Section 34, where J. Wasson now lives, but abandoned it soon after for a location south of the river, and did not return to it for some years afterwards. The settlement properly dates from August, 1833. At that time Henry Miller settled on the north-east quarter of Section 33, and Wm. Miller made a farm on the south-west quarter of Section 27; and in the fall of the same year Edward Hall settled on the north-east quarter of Section 29, on the same farm now occupied by H. W. Munson. William Swan settled on the south-east quarter of Section 19, where James G. Swan now lives, and Ransom Hall on the north-east quarter of Section 27, the same farm now occupied by J. Whitehead. Robert Scott made a farm on Section 29, where A. Wixom now lives, and Alexander Holbrook and Martin Tompkins made farms on Section 36. Afterwards these farms were owned by Daniel Webster, of political celebrity. In 1834, Isam Wilhite made a farm on Section 18. In 1835, C. W. Combs and Nathaniel Applegate came to this town; some time afterwards Mr. Combs settled on Section 18, and Mr. Applegate in Selby.

James G. Swan, Edward and Henry J. Miller, E. C. Hall, Dr. Whitehead, and Noah Sapp, were among the early settlers.

NEPONSET.

Population, 1,570.

The original name of this town was Brawby, but of late it was changed (by an act of the board of supervisors), to its present name. It contains a good quality of land, which is mostly under cultivation, with many well improved farms and fine farm buildings. Barren and Sugar Groves afford a fair supply of timber. The east and west branches of Spoon river run through the town, affording a good supply of stock water to the farms through which they pass.

Neponset was most all military land, except fractional tracts on the east, west and north town line, which were subject to entry. The same was true of the towns of Macon, Milo, and Wheatland. This military tract extended from the mouth of the Illinois river north to the line dividing towns 15 and 16, which is the north line of this town, including the whole country between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. These lands were drawn by the soldiers of the war of 1812, and were known as patent or military bounty lands. These patents, for many years after their issue, were considered of but little value, and were traded from one person to another for a small consideration. Parties holding them failed to pay the taxes, and they soon became covered up with tax titles—one party claiming under that title, and the other by virtue of the patent. Many lawsuits were the result, and the settlement of the country was retarded in consequence. The same trouble existed throughout the whole military district. The adverse title is now mostly wiped out by possession, and the owners are no longer afraid of other parties claiming their homes.

In the summer of 1836, William Studley entered the north-east quarter of Section 8; a short time afterwards he moved on to it with his family, and has resided there ever since. About the same time William Norton settled on the north-east quarter of Section 21. Some years later, U. P. Botterill made a farm on Section 6, Geo Norton on the north-west quarter of Section 15, where he now lives, and James Tibbitts on the south-west quarter of Section 19, on the same farm now occupied by him.

E. Kent, Levi Lewis, Geo. Bowen, Rob't Norton, and Mr. Batriam, were among the early settlers.

NEPONSET
J. Potrill
S.D. Bounds
T. Stubler
M. Norton
Hasard
T. Grattage
Niles
J. Markee
E. Sweet
Sugar Grove
A. Sweet
J.M. Vancort
P.W. Snow
W. Donaldson
Bissett
S Benington
J.C. Niles
W. Stevenson
S.I. M.C. Mallon
T. Wirth
A. Spegal
Coats
W. Studley
C. Stearns
G. Robinson
Geo. Lewis
Lyford
J. Reynolds
Stetson
D.F.K. Stetson
S. Stark
T. Rounds
J. Bumphrey
W.H. Parks
Mud Creek
W. Wooster
C. Studley
I. Watts
E.Mc Intire
R.G. Wallace
C.W. Allbrach
G. Gilmore
D. Pauline
Cemetery
C. Williams
F. Krause
D. Dunmire
R. Lyle
T. Bates
G. Norton
L. Lewis
W. Stevenson
I. Lyford
G. Chandler
C.L. Dunham
T.P. Currier
E.E. Ricker
W. Bowen
J. Bowen
M. Grow
W. Norton
J.S.C. Rhodes
R. Norton
R. Borgrund
L. Wallace
S. Dorr
East Branch of Spoon R.
J.C. Craig
J. Eldridge
F. Stubler
T. Norton
G. Batterill
J. Gould
W. White
L. Lewis
M.A. Lewis
B. Bogatt
Riggs
Dorr
J.F. Tibbitts
J. Turner
N. Adams
J. Barrans
G. Binge
A. Gould
W. Arnett
T. Otley
J. Bradford
Bradford
S.D. Lyle
R. Scott
J. Gunning
J. Buchanan
J.T. Coats
G. Tibbitts
W. Russell
S.W. Williamson
H. Ledbetter
A. Davis
M. Swyger
C. Allewitt
F. Dilon
M. Golly
H. Carpenter
G. Otley
L.L. Dana
J. Miller
E. Russell
T. Bennett
S. Bechtel
W. Douglass
T. Pratt
D.Mc Beth
P. Quirk
J. Ingham
L. Atkins
West Branch of Spoon River
J. Turnbull
Armstrong
G.G. Dana
P.C. Rhea
C. Hollaze
W.Mc Clernan
G. Adams
Mc Beth
Kelsey
A. Turnbull
J.G. Turnbull
D. Currier
J. Bates
H. Bennett
H. Scott
Mc.M. Patrick
J.T. Currier
J. Currier
A. Rule
S. Nokley
G.C. Parks
A.H. Swiger
D. Blanchard

MASON
BLACK WALNUT GROVE
C. B. & Q. R. R.
Water Tank
Mason
Morton
Wood
Anderson
Webster
Burkstresser
Court Creek
Burnett
Ford
Cobb
Law
Rush
Zink
Lewis
Russell
Short
Foster
Mason
Anthony
Reed
Ferris
Powell
Patridge
Watts
Swope
Fisher
Johnson
Widrech
Albrecht
Voris
Dempsey
Monlaw
Hoffman
Pilgrim
Young
Roggy
Weeks
Potter
Long
Currier
Carpenter
Bartlett
Chesney
Norris
Saddler
Lyford
Smith
Robinson
Holmes
Conley
White
Hartley
Snively
Powell
Davis
Wilson
Stevens Estate
Burd
Wells
Dennis
Osborn
Fredrick
Millan
Horton
Carper
Crisman
Bedsherd
Clark
Cain
Chace
Weed
Sweet
Dale
Atkin
Gilbreth
Fowler
Burkstresser
Reed
Potter
Ulrich
Stevens
Putnam
Foster
Rees
Mason
Anthony
Ferris
Stevens
Wilson
Davis
Weeks
Hoffman
Pilgrim
Young
Roggy
Horan
Munson
Burd
Currier
Long
Potter
Fowler
Albrecht
Voris
Dempsey
Monlaw
Webster
Carpenter
Bartlett
Saddler
Lyford
Chesney
Norris
Watts
Johnson
Powell
Widrech
Davis
Wilson
Holmes
Conley
White
Hartley
Snively
Robinson
Smith
Sweet
Dale
Atkin
Gilbreth
Fowler
Burkstresser
Reed
Ferris
Stevens
Wilson

MACON.

POPULATION, 867.

The land in this town is mostly high and rolling, and is nearly all under cultivation. A large portion of it was military land, which prevented it from being settled as soon as some of the adjoining towns. Black Walnut Grove at one time contained excellent timber, but of late it has been much culled. This grove was all military land, and for many years belonged to a non-resident by the name of Hall. In this grove the Rev. John Williams was murdered by the Indians, over half a century ago. The following account of this affair is taken from the statements made by one of the Indians engaged in the tragedy, to a former citizen of this county:

In 1812, Gov. Edwards destroyed the village of the celebrated chief, Black Partridge, at the head of Peoria Lake, and some of his band took refuge at Indiantown. About this time Mr. Williams, who had been for three years a missionary among the Indians west of the Mississippi river, and was returning to his home in Ohio, unconscious of the war, came in contact with about twenty of these Indians, some of whom had lost friends in the destruction of their village and were thirsting for revenge. These savages, on meeting him, fired several shots, one of which took effect in his shoulder, but he put his horse at full speed and was fast leaving the Indian ponies behind. The race continued for several miles. Near the grove his horse mired in a slough and he was taken prisoner. Not far from the east end of the grove, many years ago, stood a big walnut tree; around this tree the Indians placed themselves with their muskrat spears pointing to the center. The prisoner was brought into this ring, divested of all his clothing, his hands tied, and his scalp taken off, with the blood streaming down to his heels. In this way he was compelled to run around the tree with spears thrust into his flesh as he ran, until one of the savages, who was more humane than the others, struck him on the head with a tomahawk and thus ended his sufferings.

In 1837, Wm. Bates built a house at the east end of the grove, but he occupied it only a short time. On the 4th of July, 1838, Thomas Matheral settled on Section 20. James B. Akin came here at the same time, and consequently is the oldest settler now living in the town. Some years later Lewis Holmes settled where he now lives, John and Charles Wood settled at the west end of the grove, and T. I. Horton and Charles Lee on Section 16.

Benj. Stevens, L. Akin, Wm. H. Mason, John and Geo. Zink, and Allen Horton, were among the early settlers.

INDIANTOWN.

POPULATION, 1,767.

This town lies up high and dry, with fine rolling prairie of the best quality, and is now nearly all under cultivation. About one-third of the town was originally timber, but the most of it was of an inferior quality, called barrens. Some of it has been cleared out and made into farms. On Rocky Run, in Section 14, belonging to L. D. Whiting, is the best stone quarry in the county. Before the building of railroads, all the stone used in public or private buildings, both in Princeton and Tiskilwa, came out of this quarry. Close by, in Sections 13 and 14, on Coal Run, are numerous coal banks that are worked extensively.

The first settlement of this town was made in 1833, by Sampson Cole, on the farm now belonging to the heirs of Simon Kinney. He afterwards built a house on the town plat of Tiskilwa, north of Stevens' store, which was used as a house of entertainment. In 1834, Curtiss Williams made a claim where Peter Bloom now lives. In 1835, Martin Tompkins settled on the north-west quarter of Section 12. S. Kinney, J. W. Kinney, S. Wimple, and Mr. Burt, settled here about this time.

In 1836, the Providence Colony located here. This colony belonged to Providence, R. I. The company was organized in the spring of 1836, and consisted of seventy-two stockholders, having from one to sixteen shares, each share drawing 80 acres of land, amounting in all to about 17,000 acres. A committee was appointed to select and enter the land, consisting of seven persons, namely: Com. Morris, Col. C. Oakley, Asa Barney, L. Scott, S. G. Wilson, Edward Bailey, and Caleb Cushing. The committee, after looking around for some time, selected Indiantown as their future home. This town was all vacant land at that time, except a few sections on the east side. They entered all that was vacant and some of Milo, to make out the required amount of land. They laid off a village, and, to honor the memory of Roger Williams, called it Providence. Asa Barney and Caleb Cushing remained until fall, to put up a building in their new town. This was a large frame structure, built by joint stock, and called the Colony House, and was intended to be used as a hotel. In the spring of 1837, about fifty persons belonging to this colony arrived, and all went into the colony house until other houses could be built. With this colony came many of the best citizens of the county, and they received a hearty welcome by all the early settlers.

INDIANTOWN
PROVIDENCE
Wm. Anthony
I. D. Reynolds
W.A. Miller
L. Hathaway
N. Holton
N. Hewitt
E.K. Gorton
D. Johnson
E. Croskell
B.B. Eastman
Kitterman
J. Clump
Mrs H. Grandoff
F.
O.B. Bluff
C.L. Kelsey
H. Kitterman
R. Kitterman
J. Galkaher
J. Colvin
S.E. Durfee
R.H. Crosby
H. Hinman
W.T. Ide
W.W. Harrington
G.B. Cushing
G.T. Nelson
H.C. Folger
A. Miller
C. Cushing
J. Miller
J. Pierson
A. Holman
V.S.R. Kitterman
M. Rogue
J.W. Bigelow
J. Gallaher
H.N. Bliss
Mrs H. Cullivar
R. Farwell
J. Booth
J. Reagan
H. Kidd
W. Prunk
J. Holbrook
J. Miller
W.H. Bloom
J. Savage
Stevens
W. Prunk
P. Blaisdell
D. Whiting
W. Hoblet
P. Bloom
Bloom Cemetery
J.G. Gates
TISKILWA
Coal
J.M. Haskell
J. Harrington
F.F. Lefavour
Cushing
L.F. Carpenter
Mrs E. Eatinger
M.M. Creal
D. Costigan
J. Sullivan
Gillett
Coppins
F. Holland
H. Mayhew
T.O. Brine
W. Battey
Rocky Run
Coal
J. Johnson
C. Cushing
A. Mathony
O.W. Battey
Mahill
Barton
H. Barney
J. Johon
R. Almy
C. Barney
C.C. Sargent
G.F. Townsend
J. Blessing
SH. Mitchell
W.F. Dunn
F.F. Lefavour
T.M. Alear
J. Boling
Decker
C. Morris
J. Rondon
W.P. Dater
J.D. Ramser
J. Dana
Lefavour
Dexter
J.M. Dexter
Mrs M. Wilson
Locust Grove
King
C.R. Holmes
L. Pickard
J. Cole
W. Jamison
D. Campbell
W.O. Carpenter
G.H.S Powers
W. King
S. Johnson
C.J. Rhodes
W.E. Lethbee
O. Harrison
S.S. Patterson
H. Sheldon
E. Williams
A. Jamison
M. Joden
S. Powers
Powers
H. Bacon
J.B. Kirkpatrick
H. Kirkpatrick
M. Forbs
A.E. May
J. Williams
J. Thompson
C. Aldrecht
G. Cooper
T. Doe
J. Call
Albrecht
C. Hatch
G.E. Dorr
F.T. Hutchings
T.A. Oakes
May

ARISPE
W. Kitterman
Mc. Mahon
Green Place
G.H. Sauer
Wm. Bass
Warrington
P. Nelson
O. Johnson
M. Pierson
Geo. McManis
W.H. McManis
Mrs. M. Long
A. Boolher
G.M. Radeleff
A. Holbrook
A. Lomax Saw Mill
J. Wallace
W.B. Magee
J. Barnard
G. Neff
Saw Mill
Mrs. D. Drake
M. Main Mill
E. Engle
M. Ritter
Hedrich
M. Parsons
C. Frecker
Stevens Mill
Johnsons Mill
Stanton Mill
PROPOSED
T. R. R. M. R.
CANAL
T. 8 N. R. 11 W.
M. Fritchey
J. M. Hugh
Tebow
J. Hedrich
H. Overmire
E. Johnson
R. G. Sauer
V. Harop
Stevens
Brick Yard
E. Culp
Lorbeck
M. Hosetter
J. Warrington
R. Long
J. Aldrich
J. Ney
V. Aldrich
Ludhoor
Brick Yard
Mrs. Dr. Swaney
O. Milling
Nursery
J.W. Long
W. Long
SB. Titcomb
G.V. Thomas
E. Church
M. Greenman
A. Benson
J. Tebow
C. Tebow
A.F. Clark
D.N. Ford
Woodford
Jodes
V.A. Sauer
M. Perkins
Langtree
H.N. Morris
E&W Chenowith
J.B. Chenowith
N. Venum
P.T. Benson
D. Gingery
J. Jodes
Swaney
B. Smith
J. Albright
A. Young
L. Long
D. Mc Carthy
A. Longworthy
C.E. McCarthy
Albright
P. Kirkpatrick
Water Tank
S.E. Morris
Mrs. A. Brown
H. Sheldon
Benson
Sandy Pine Creek
P. Linker
Mrs. E. Zurlein
A.M. Sheldon
J.H. Hedrich
Jodes
W. Martin
H. Shepard
E.G. Perkins
G. Hughes

ARISPIE.

Population, 1,219.

This town originally was about two-thirds timber, but much of it has been cut off, and the land made into farms. The Big Bureau running through its territory gives it a great advantage for milling purposes. There are at the present time six mills in operation. In this town was built the first mill in the county, by Amos Leonard, in 1830, on East Bureau, a short distance above its mouth. It was a log structure, about twelve feet square; all the machinery was made of wood; the stones were dressed out of boulder rocks, taken from the bluff; the hoop they ran in was a section of a hollow sycamore tree. This mill, when in good running order, would grind from six to eight bushels of corn per day; nevertheless, it was considered a great accession to the settlement. All those who had been pounding their corn in a hominy block, patronized Leonard's Mill. It was sold to Timothy Perkins in the spring of 1831. The first saw mill in this county was built by Leonard Roth, in the summer of 1831, north of McManis's Mill, where the bridge now stands. This mill was afterwards sold to Wilson & Griffith.

The first settler of this town, after Amos Leonard, was Michael Kitterman, in 1831, on the farm he now occupies; the same year, Dave Jones built a cabin on the present site of Tiskilwa, to the great annoyance of the Indians. In the fall of 1832, Amos Leonard and Cyrus Watson commenced to build a saw mill, near where Stevens' Mill now stands; this mill was afterwards sold to Dr. A. Langworthy. In 1833, Mr. Argrove settled on the farm now occupied by Alexander Holbrook; in the spring of the same year, Ferrill Dunn came to Tiskilwa, and Joseph Beeler settled on a farm now occupied by Joseph Booher.

In the spring of 1835, Elijah Searl settled where Mr. Milling now lives, Ferrill Dunn on the farm now belonging to Alanson Benson, and Elder J. B. Chenoweth where his family still resides.

LEEPERTOWN.

POPULATION, 500.

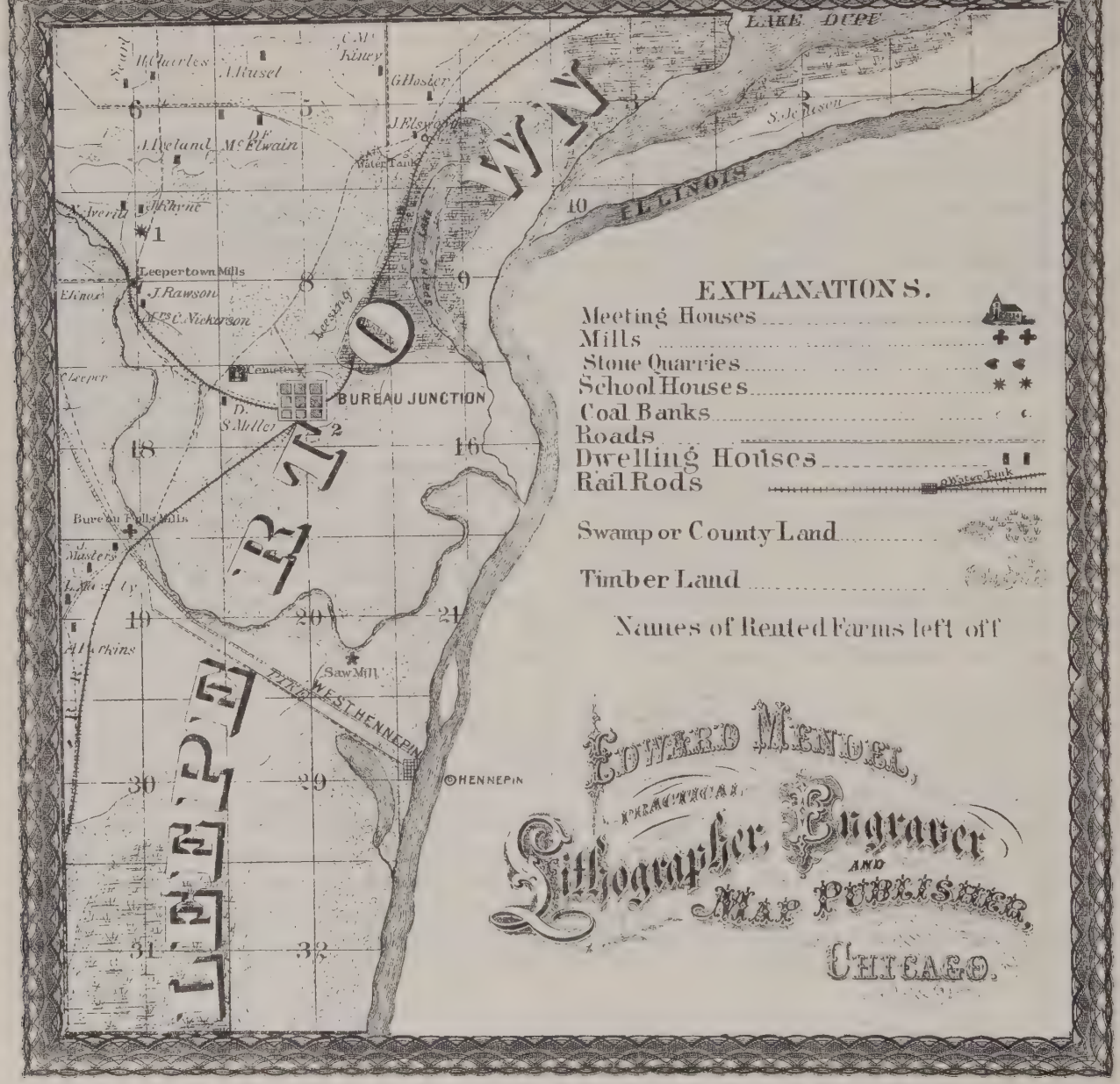
This town is fractional, caused by the river. It is about equal to one-half township, by the Government survey. It was, originally, mostly timber, with a few small prairies. Some of this timber was of an excellent quality, especially along the river and Bureau creek. There is less grain raised in this town than in any other town in the county, and the population is less with one exception. The first large flouring mill in the county was built in this town by John Leeper, on the site of the present Leepertown Mills. It commenced business in the summer of 1836, and received a large patronage, not only by this county, but by the adjoining counties. In 1838, it was burnt down, which was considered a great public loss.

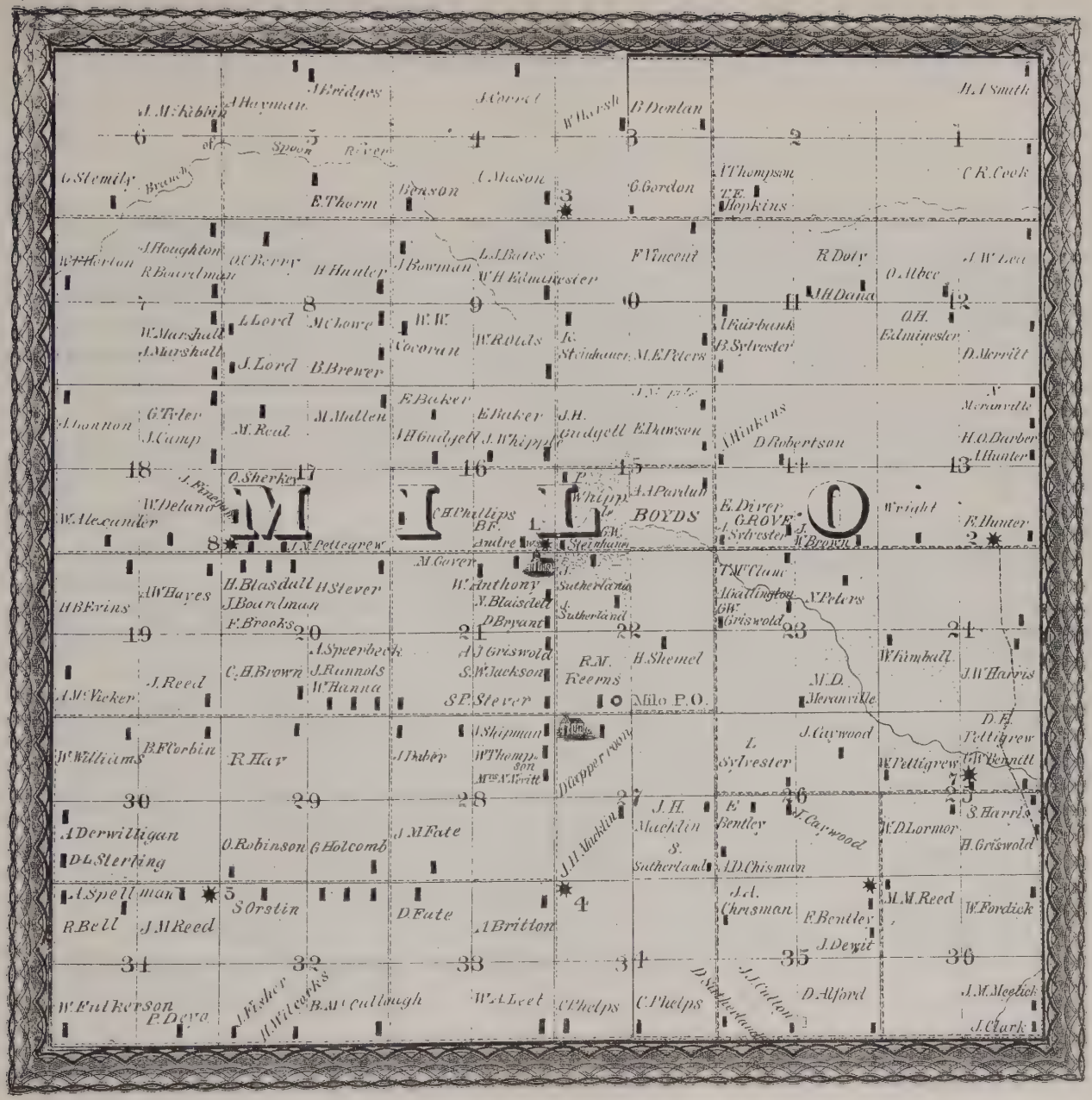
The present Leepertown Mills and the Bureau Valley Mills are good substantial structures, and do a large amount of business; their water privilege is the best in the county. In 1836–7, there was quite a village at Leeper's mills (called Leepertown). It contained one dry goods store, one grocery, one hotel, and ten or twelve dwellings. At that time, it was the second village in the county in point of business. After the mill was burnt down the village went down also, and is now no more.

In high water the river overflows its banks, and sometimes reaches almost to Bureau Junction and the Bureau Valley Mills. Many years ago, it was not uncommon for the ferry boat to go two miles to land a cargo. Of late years these freshets are less frequent.

The Hennepin pike was built in 1837–8, mostly by the citizens of Hennepin. The proceeds of the ferry, since that time, have been applied to keep it in repair.

The first settler of this town was Timothy Perkins; in 1829, he built a cabin where the Leepertown Mills now stand. In 1830, Leonard Roth made a claim on the south-west quarter of Section 19, where A. Perkins now lives, and Henry George made a claim on Section 17; he was killed by the Indians on Indian creek. In 1833, John Leeper came here and bought T. Perkins' claim. In 1834, David Nickerson settled on the farm now occupied by David S. Miller, Jesse Perkins became the owner of L. Roth's claim, and James How made a claim where Charles Leeper now lives. In 1835, John McElwain settled where the family now lives, and the same year, Maj. Wm. Shields settled on Section 17.


LAKE DUPE
ILLINOIS
BUREAU JUNCTION
Leepertown Mills
Bureau Falls Mills
Saw Mill
HENNEPIN
TITUS WEST HENNEPIN
LEEPER ROAD
EXPLANATIONS.
Meeting Houses
Mills
Stone Quarries
School Houses
Coal Banks
Roads
Dwelling Houses
Rail Rods
Swamp or County Land
Timber Land
Names of Rented Farms left off
EDWARD MENDEL,
PRACTICAL
Lithographer, Engraver
AND
Map Publisher,
CHICAGO.


MILO
BOYDS
GROVE
Milo P.O.
Spoon River
Flapper town
Meranville
Wright
Benson
Branch
J.M. Kibbin
J. Haymaker
J. Bridges
J. Corral
W. Harsh
B. Donlan
H.A. Smith
C.R. Cook
G. Stemily
E. Thorn
C. Mason
G. Gordon
I. Thompson
T.E. Hopkins
W. Horton
J. Houghton
R. Boardman
O.C. Berry
B. Hunter
J. Bowman
L.L. Bates
W.H. Edminester
F. Vincent
R. Doty
J.W. Lee
O. Albee
W. Marshall
J. Marshall
L. Lord
M. Chowe
W.W. Cocoran
W. Robds
J. Lord
B. Brewer
J. Steinhauer
M.E. Peters
U. Fairbanks
B. Sylvester
M.H. Dana
O.H. Edminester
D. Merritt
E. Baker
J.H. Gudgell
J. Whipple
E. Thomson
D. Robertson
H.O. Barber
I. Hunter
G. Tyler
J. Camp
M. Reed
M. Mullen
O. Sherkey
W. Delano
W. Alexander
J.N. Pettegrew
C.H. Phillips
B.F. Andre
A.A. Pardue
E. Diver
A. Sylvester
J. Whipple
F. Hunter
M. Gover
W. Anthony
N. Blaisdell
D. Bryant
J. Sutherland
H.B. Evins
A.W. Hayes
H. Blasdall
H. Stever
J. Boardman
F. Brooks
T.W. Clune
Y. Peters
Griswold
W. Kimball
J.W. Harris
C.H. Brown
J. Runnels
W. Hanna
A.J. Griswold
S.W. Jackson
S.P. Stever
R.M. Reems
H. Shemel
M.D. Meranville
A.M. Vicker
J. Reed
W. Williams
B.F. Corbin
R. Hay
J. Huber
O. Shipman
W. Thompson
Mrs. A. Neville
J. Caywood
L. Sylvester
D.H. Pettigrew
W. Pettigrew
W. Bennett
A. Derwilligan
D.L. Sterling
O. Robinson
G. Holcomb
J.M. Fate
J.H. Macklin
S. Sutherland
E. Bentley
W.D. Lormor
S. Harris
H. Griswold
I.D. Chisman
A. Spellman
R. Bell
J.M. Reed
S. Orstin
D. Fate
A. Britton
J.L. Chrisman
E. Bentley
M.M. Reed
W. Fordick
J. Dewit
W. Endkerson
P. Devo
J. Fisher
H. Wilcocks
B.M. Cullough
W.A. Leet
C. Phelps
D. Sutherland
J.J. Catlon
D. Alford
J.M. Medick
J. Clark

MILO.

POPULATION, 1,219.

This town is nearly all prairie, which is of an excellent quality, rolling, and sloping towards the south. Boyd's Grove, before it was cut off, was a beautiful belt of timber, extending out into the prairie, cone-shaped, which gave it quite a romantic appearance. A large portion of this town was military land, which prevented it from being settled as soon as some other towns in the county.

Its first settler was John Dixon. In the spring of 1829, he built a house at the head of the grove, on a farm now occupied by Mrs. Whipple; in the spring of 1830, he sold his claim to Charles S. Boyd, and moved to Rock river. This was the origin of Dixon's Ferry.

For fourteen years, Boyd kept a house of entertainment for travelers. In 1833, a post office was established here, called Boyd's Grove post office. This office did not pay very largely to the Department, as the nearest neighbor on the south was twenty miles, on the west twelve miles, on the east fifteen miles, and on the north ten miles.

For ten years, no other person settled in this town. In the spring of 1840, David Bryant settled on the south side of the grove, and Mr. Clark settled close by about the same time, and Barney Hagan made a farm on the north side of the grove; he afterwards lived on Section 3. In 1841, John A. Griswold settled on the farm he now occupies, and Isaac Sutherland made a farm south of the grove, on Section 22. In 1840, Edwin Merrick and A. E. May made farms on Sections 2 and 3. In 1842, J. W. Harris and J. V. Thompson became residents of this town, Mr. Harris settling on Section 24, and Mr. Thompson on Section 2.

Isaac Sutherland, J. V. Thompson, and J. W. Harris, were the first school trustees of this town. J. Sutherland, R. Hay, H. Griswold, C. R. Cook, and R. Steinauer, were among the early settlers.

WHEATLAND.

POPULATION, 547.

This town embraces only one-half township, according to the Government surveys, the other half being in Putnam county. The prairie is good and mostly under cultivation, with many well improved farms. Wheatland was nearly all military land, and from this cause the settlement is of a recent date. The town was not organized until 1857, it being attached to Milo previous to that time.

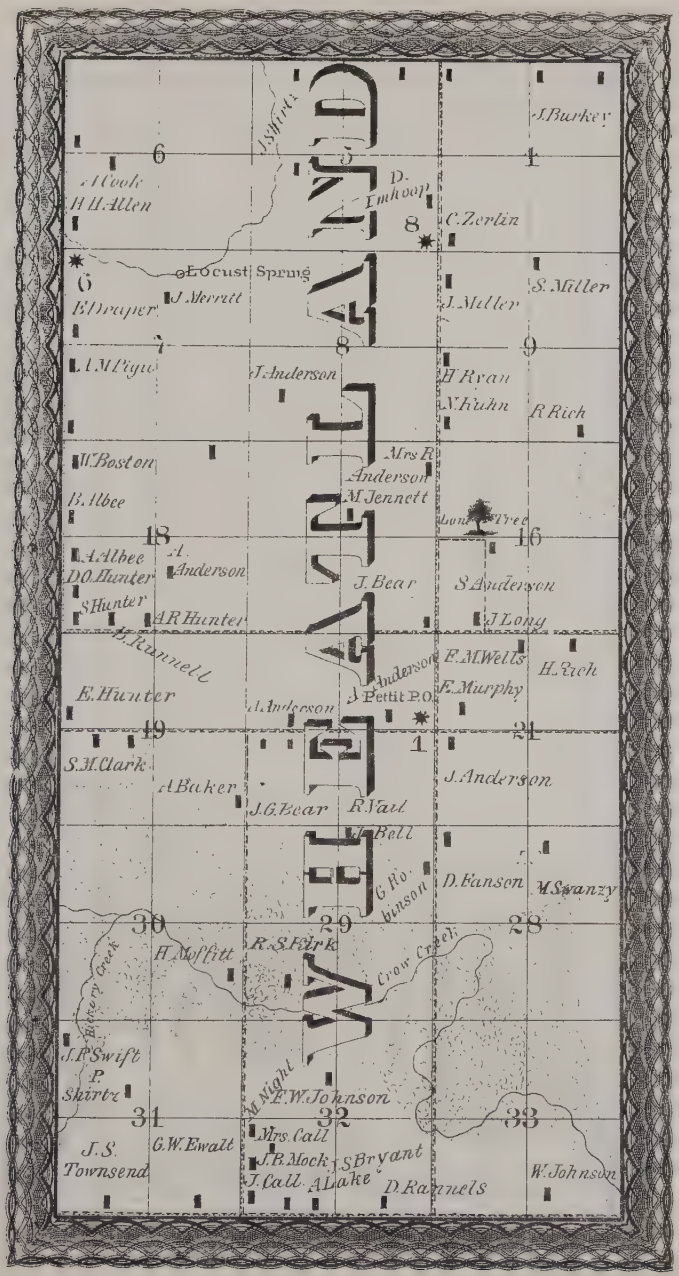
Many years ago there was a post office kept on Section 16, called Lone Tree; it was afterwards removed to Section 20, and took the name of Pettit, but has again been changed to its old name, that of Lone Tree.

Locust Spring, on Section 7, is an old landmark, known by many of the early explorers of the West. It took its name from a locust tree that stood close by, but has long since disappeared. This spring was a great watering place for buffalo; thirty years ago deep cut trails were visible running in various directions across the prairie, going to and from this spring. Along the Senachwine, in this vicinity, a large amount of buffalo bones could have been seen. This spring was also a great resort for deer, and large herds have frequently been seen drinking and feeding here. As late as 1844, when deer had become scarce in this county, hunters could always find plenty in this locality.

The Lone Tree, which has a notice elsewhere, was located on Section 16.

In 1841, John and T. Kirkpatrick built a mill on Crow creek, and on Section 28. This was the first settlement made in the town. The same year J. Larkins made a farm on Section 16, by the Lone Tree, and Nelson Ballman came here soon after. In 1843, Alpheus Cook settled on the farm now occupied by him, and about the same time Michael Jennett became a resident of this town.

Henry, G. W. and Raleigh Rich, S. M. Clark, J. Merritt, E. and S. Hunter, J. and S. Miller, and the large family of the Andersons, were among the early settlers.


WELLAND
J. Burkey
A Wood
H H Allen
D. Emhoof
C. Zerlin
Locust Spring
E Draper
J Merritt
S. Miller
J. Miller
L M Pigg
J. Anderson
H Ryan
N Kuhn
R Rich
W. Boston
B. Albee
Mrs R Anderson
M Jennett
Land Tree
A Albee
D O Hunter
S Hunter
A R Hunter
A. Anderson
J. Bear
S Anderson
J Long
E. Hunter
J Pettit P O
E M Wells
E. Murphy
H. Rich
S M Clark
A Baker
J G Bear
R Vail
J. Anderson
D. Hanson
M Swanzy
H. Moffitt
R S Kirk
Crow Creek
J P Swift
P Shirtz
E W Johnson
J. S Townsend
G W Ewalt
Mrs Call
J B Mock
J Call
A Lake
S Bryant
D Rannels
W Johnson

OLD INDIAN BOUNDARY LINE.

This line runs from the south end of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi at the mouth of Rock river, in accordance with a treaty made at St. Louis, August 24, 1816, between the General Government and the united tribes of Indians—Ottawas, Chippewas, and Pottawatomies. The line was surveyed in the spring of 1819, by John C. Sullivan, under the direction of Graham and Phillips, commissioners appointed by the President of the United States for that purpose. The line above referred to enters this county on the north-east quarter of Section 24, Clarion, and leaves it on the south-west quarter of Section 30, Fairfield, making an angle of 390 rods south of a due east and west line. This Indian Boundary was made one of the standard lines in surveying the military district, which makes tracts of land more or less fractional north and south of said line. In 1840, Wisconsin made a claim to all of Illinois north of this line, under the ordinance of 1787. The title of the Old Indian Boundary is given to this line, from the fact of its being the first surveyed, and the most important one in the West. By the conditions of the treaty, which authorized the running of this line, the Indian title was extinguished to the whole country south of it, including all of the military district. Two Indian chiefs, Senachwine and Shaubena, who made Bureau their hunting ground, were a party to this treaty.*

* At the time this treaty was made, there was no settlement north of Bond county. Four years previous to this, all of the territory which now constitutes Illinois and Wisconsin, contained but two organized counties—St. Clair and Randolph; the former had jurisdiction over the western, and the latter over the eastern, part of this territory. — An action having been brought before a justice of the peace, in Cahokie, for a cow, and a recovery had for $16, the case was appealed to court. The adverse parties and witnesses lived at Prairie du Chien (now in Wisconsin), about four hundred miles distant. The sheriff, having a summons for the parties, and subpœnas for witnesses, and being also an Indian trader, fitted out a boat, stocked it with goods for the Indian market, and proceeded to serve the papers. After serving them he made his returns, charging traveling fees on each one. His costs amounted to about $900; it is not known whether they have been paid or not.

GOVERNMENT SURVEYS.

The land in this county lies between the third and fourth principal meridian. The third meridian is a line due north from the mouth of the Ohio river, passing on the east line of this county, and terminating at the north line of the State. The fourth meridian is a line due north from the mouth of the Illinois river, crossing the Mississippi river twice and terminating at the northern boundary of Wisconsin, and is the principal meridian for the survey of that State. The base line of this meridian commences at a point in the channel of the Illinois river, seventy-two miles from its mouth, running west to the Mississippi river, a short distance above Quincy. The reckoning of towns and ranges are made north and east from these lines: for instance, the township of Princeton is sixteen north, nine east, being fifty-four miles east of the fourth principal meridian, and ninety-six miles north of its base line.

The surveys of the land in this county, south of the Indian boundary, which passes through Town 18, were commenced in 1816, and completed in 1823; the land surveys north of this line were commenced in 1834, and completed in 1843. The surveys are more or less imperfect; almost every town and section either overruns or falls short. On the east line of the county there is a deficiency of sixty-five rods at the river, and eighty rods at the north line; at the north boundary of the county there is an excess of fifty-two rods at the north-east corner, and runs to a point at the north-west corner; on the west line of the county there is a jog at, and north of, the Indian boundary forty-eight rods west. In Town 14, Range 8, there is a deficiency of forty rods on the west, and forty rods on the north; Town 14, Range 9, is short forty rods on the north; in Towns 16, 17, and 18, Range 9, there is an excess on the west line, varying from sixteen to twenty-four rods; in the towns of Milo and Wheatland, the survey jogs west about three-quarters of a mile.

The lands in this county, south of the Indian boundary, came into market in 1835, north of this line in 1844. The line that bounds the Military Tract, was from the great bend in the Illinois river, which is in Section 9, Leepertown, to the Mississippi river, a short distance above New Boston.

The towns of Wheatland, Milo, Macon, and Neponset, contained a large portion of military land. The towns of Leepertown, Arispie, and Indiantown, although within the military district, contained none of these lands.

GOVERNMENT LANDS.

For the first seven years of the settlement of this county, the settlers lived on Government land, which did not come into the market until July, 1835. The land office was at Galena, but was afterwards removed to Dixon.

Claim rights were the cause of much trouble among the settlers; choice localities were in good demand; and every one felt disposed to make their claims as large as possible. By common consent, each person was entitled to 160 acres for himself and a like amount for each of his sons. Some would enlarge their boundaries, so as to provide for one or two sons that were in expectation. These provisos were not generally respected by new comers, and frequently the invisible claimants would have their claims jumped.

The manner of making claims was by cutting the first letters of their names on the witness-trees; laying the foundation for a cabin; sometimes plowing a furrow around their prairie, and it was completed by actual residence. Before the land came into market, a pre-emption could be taken out, which would secure it to the claimant. In this way, most of the timber fell into the hands of the settlers.

At a later day, after the land was in market, this claim and pre-emption business

was introduced in some parts of the county. On Green river, there was an organized society, known as the "Settlers' League," with a constitution and by-laws, providing for defensive and offensive operations. The object was to prevent speculators and others from entering their improvements.

This was the origin of the phrase "State of Green River."

HEIGHT OF LAND.

Some years since, a survey was made for a proposed railroad from Princeton, to intersect the Rock Island Railroad on Section 1, Arispie. It was found, on taking a level, that Princeton was 250 feet above that point.

The following is copied from the surveys of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, which will show the elevations of the land above the water-courses: At the Big Bureau bridge, the road is 86 feet above the creek; at the summit, near the Baconfield school-house, it is 156 feet; at East Bureau bridge, 117 feet; at the summit, west of Arlington, 206 feet; at the east county line, 174 feet; at West Bureau bridge, 71 feet; at Rock Island Railroad crossing, 63 feet; at the summit, west of Bulbona Grove, 190 feet; at Coal creek bridge, 146 feet; at Neponset, 252 feet; and at west county line, 244 feet. Taking these points as a basis, it is safe to say, the land throughout the county will average 200 feet above Big Bureau at the railroad crossing, and 250 feet above the Illinois river.

When the railroad was built, the Big Bureau bridge was 992 feet long, and 86 feet high. West Bureau bridge was 750 feet long, and 66 feet high. These were wooden structures. Of late, parts of the chasms have been filled up, and supplied with stone and iron bridges.

GREEN RIVER.

This stream passes through the towns of Greenville, Manlius, and Gold, having a channel in this county of about fifteen miles in length.

Before the settlement of the county it was known by the name of Winnebago swamp, extending through the counties of Lee, Bureau, and Henry. At the upper end it was called the inlet; at the lower end, towards the Mississippi river, it was called the outlet. By the platting of the Government surveys, it is represented as containing large ponds or lakes, without any channel or current. This is found to be a mistake. What were supposed to be lakes were caused by the river overflowing the low lands in time of high water. This overflow was only occasional. As the country settled up, it became dryer, and that which was called a lake, thirty years ago, is now considered good grazing land. Most of the swamp land along the river belongs to the county.

At New Bedford, the high land on both sides comes to the river. Some years ago, a mill was built at this point.

The name Green river had its origin about the year 1838.

ILLINOIS RIVER.

This stream forms the south-eastern boundary of this county for about fourteen miles. The great bend in the river, spoken of by early explorers, is in Section 9, Leepertown. The first white persons on its waters were Marquette and Joliet, in the summer of 1673, one hundred and ninety-four years ago. In their journal, published some years afterwards, they say: "I never saw a more pleasant country than the banks of this river. The large meadows are covered with oxen (meaning buffalo), stags, and

wild goats, and the river and lakes are full of swans, ducks, and beavers. Large flocks of parrots make cheerful the lonely waters with their songs."

On the 11th of September, 1681, a party of Frenchmen, leaving their fort, on Buffalo Rock, near Ottawa, for the one near where Peoria now stands, while passing down the river, stopped to repair their canoe and dry their furs. While thus engaged, Father Gabriel, a Jesuit missionary, wandered into the woods and was missing. When the time for departure arrived, he was searched for in vain. Guns were fired, and fires were lighted along the river banks; but all without effect. It was afterwards ascertained that he had been murdered by a band of savages. He was an old man, seventy years of age, and much devoted to the work of the church. His loss was much regretted. I give this incident, with the probability of its having occurred within the limits of this county. The exact spot where it took place is not known. Some writers fix it at the head of Peoria Lake; others at the mouth of Crow creek. The church historians say it was at the mouth of a river that puts into the Illinois. This must have been Bureau creek, as it is the only stream of any size on the route.

The channel of the river, on the boundary of this county, is deep, and at no point can it be forded. Hennepin bar, near the south line of the county, troubles boatmen in times of low water. The river, along the borders of this county, is very different from what it is in many places further south, where it is wider and more shallow.

A writer in a Boston paper, some years ago, says that in low water, "at almost every town, steamboats would have to stop, to avoid running into wagons and droves of cattle fording the river." The same writer says: "It is no uncommon thing, in low water, and of a dark night, for the captain to wade ahead of the boat with a lantern in his hand, in search of the channel, and once in a while sing out, 'knee deep!' 'all safe!'"

It is not known at what time the first steamboat came up the river so far as this

county. It is said the little steamer America came up here in 1830. In 1832, at the time of the Black Hawk war, a steamboat, employed by the Government, made several trips to Fort Wilburn, opposite Peru.

The North-Western Fur Company had stations at different points on the river. One of these was opposite the mouth of Bureau. These stations were supplied by small row and sail boats, called bateaux. General Cass and party came up the river in one of these craft in 1827, at the time he held a council with the Indians at the head of Peoria Lake.

LAKE DUPU.

This is a fine sheet of water, three and a half miles long and from fifty to one hundred rods wide, and navigable for steamboats. In very high water it connects with the river above, which forms a current through the lake, and at such times steamboats can pass out this way.

When Father Marquette and party ascended the river, in 1673, he says in his journal that they missed the stream and got into a lake, of some miles in length, of beautiful clear water. Here they found an Indian village, and were kindly treated by its inhabitants, who gave them a good supply of corn and buffalo meat, and decorated their canoes with fragrant flowers. Father Marquette erected a cross here, said mass, and preached to the natives. This, undoubtedly, was Lake Dupu, as no other locality on the river will answer this description. Where Trenton now stands, and also near the bluff, on the farm of Mr. Savage, the Indians had cornfields before the settlement of the country. One or the other of these places, in all probability, was the site of the ancient Indian village.

A large amount of fish are caught in this lake. It is said to be the best fishery in the State.

SPRING LAKE.

This lake is about one and a half miles long, and from fifty to sixty rods wide. It is supplied with water from a large spring, which comes out of the bluff near its head. This is the same spring that the Spring Mill was built on, many years ago.

METEOROLOGICAL.

During the years 1850, '51, and '52, I kept a record of the variation of the thermometer, taken morning and noon of each day. Place of observation five miles north of Princeton. The following is for the year 1850:—

	Degs. & Hunds.	Days Rain.	Inches.	Days Snow.	Inches.
January,	25·25	1	½	4	9½
February,	30·50	2	½	1	1
March,	34·50	4	2	1	1½
April,	40·60	8	2½	0	0
May,	57·50	4	1½	0	0
June,	71·00	8	3¾	0	0
July,	78·00	9	5½	0	0
August,	70·50	10	8½	0	0
September,	60·00	10	2½	0	0
October,	51·50	5	3	0	0
November,	44·00	5	3¾	3	½
December,	21·50	2	1	4	3½

Temperature of each Season.

Winter, 29° 00′; Spring, 43° 16′; Summer, 73° 00′; Autumn, 51° 00′; mean temperature of the year, 48° 75′.

Greatest cold, January 4th, 12° below zero.

Greatest heat, July 10th, 101° above zero.

Sixty-eight days rain and thirteen days snow.

For 1865.

The following was furnished by E. S. Phelps. Place of observation four miles west of Wyanet:—

January, 20°; February, 30°; March, 36°; April, 48°; May, 60°; June, 71°; July, 68°; August, 70°; September, 71°; October, 52°; November, 41°; December, 22°.

Mean Temperature of each Season.

Winter, 27½°; Spring, 48°; Summer, 69½°; Autumn, 55°; mean temperature of the year, 49°.

Greatest cold, January 26th, 6° below zero.

Greatest heat, July 4th, 92° above zero.

The winter of 1830–31, was very cold, snow from two to three feet deep.

The winter of 1842–43, was intensely cold, with snow drifts from November 17th until April 1st.

Summer of 1844, very wet, with high floods. Summer of 1845, dry. No rain fell on the west part of Dover town, from April 28th until Christmas day, when it rained, with heavy thunder and lightning.

July 12th, 1846, the frost bit the corn in some places. August 30th, 1863, corn badly frosted.

OFFICES.

The great amount of business done in the public offices of this county, at the present time, some of them requiring a number of clerks, bears a striking contrast

with the business of these offices for the first few years after the county was organized. Thomas Mercer was elected the first County Clerk, and finding that the office would not pay twenty-five cents per day, he deputized S. F. Denning to act in his place. Mr. Denning was a tailor by trade, and kept the office in his shop, with the papers on a shelf above his work-table. When any one came in requiring business with the office, he would take down the book, do what was required, replace it on the shelf, and go on with his sewing.

Some years later, B. L. Smith was County Clerk, and held the office of Recorder by appointment. D. G. Salisbury was County Judge and Postmaster. All of these offices, in connection with dry goods, groceries, hardware, crockery, etc., were kept in the front part of the old building, south of Starkweather's store. In addition to this, two families lived in the building.

Cyrus Bryant was the first Clerk of the Circuit Court. For the first year or two he kept no office, but at court times would carry the papers back and forth in his hat.

POLITICS.

When the old parties were in existence the county was Whig, by a large majority. Since the organization of the present parties, it has been Republican, varying, of late years, from 1,500 to 1,900 majority.

The following towns are Republican: Clarion, Ohio, Walnut, Greenville, Manlius, Dover, Berlin, Princeton, Wyanet, Neponset, Macon, Indiantown, Lamoille, Milo, Wheatland, Concord, and Mineral.

Those having a Democratic majority are—Westfield, Selby, Hall, Arispie, Leepertown, Gold, Fairfield, and Bureau.

TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

In the spring of 1831, Putnam county was organized, and civil jurisdiction extended over the territory which now constitutes Bureau county, all of which was included in one precinct. Some years later it was divided into four; and in 1850, at the time township organization was introduced, there were nine precincts, named as follows: Princeton, Tiskilwa, Dover, Lamoille, French Grove, Hall, Bush Creek, Green River, and Hazlewood. At that time some of the towns contained but few inhabitants. Manlius, Gold, and Wheatland, did not organize until some years afterwards.

The township organization law required that two Justices of the Peace should be elected in each town. In some cases men were elected to that office who were incompetent to fill it, although men of good judgment in common affairs; but having no knowledge of the law, or legal capacity, they were frequently imposed upon by attornies, and by that means justice was thwarted. Many years ago a thief, by the name of Gladden, stole a horse in the west part of the county. He was followed to Iowa, caught, and brought back in irons, and arraigned before a Justice in that vicinity. The neighbors collected at the Justice's office and threatened to lynch him, two of their number acting as prosecuting attornies. The prisoner was without counsel or friends, his hands and feet in irons, and apparently without any hope of escaping immediate death or a term of years in the penitentiary. But fortunately for him he had a good watch and some money. These facts coming to the knowledge of a very philanthropic gentleman, he came forward and volunteered to become his friend. He requested the Justice to suspend action until counsel could be procured for the defense, which request was granted. He went in all haste to Princeton and procured the services of one Judge Z——. On the examination the proof was conclusive against the prisoner. His counsel admitted his guilt, but made an appeal for mercy. He ad-

dressed the court about as follows: "May it please the Court—my client is a very unfortunate man; having no horse, and being poor he could not buy one on credit, and was under the necessity of stealing one. Had he been rich he could have bought one on time and ran off without paying for it. This would be the same as stealing; but what law in this land of liberty would punish him for that offense? Before this court of justice and equal rights I believe a poor man will fare the same as a rich one." The Justice nodding assent, he continued: "If a rich man should commit a crime he could give security for a large amount, say one hundred dollars, or even more, but this my client cannot do. And because a man is poor should he be oppressed, his rights sacrificed, and he confined in a loathsome prison for months or perhaps years, while a rich man gives security and retains his liberty? No! this is an outrage upon justice, and in open violation of the Constitution of the United States, which expressly says, no man, on account of poverty, shall be deprived of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Therefore your honor will decide that fifty dollars is sufficient to hold the prisoner for trial."

Both of the attornies for the prosecution opposed the prisoner being admitted to bail, and made long speeches against horse-stealing generally, and the villainous conduct of this thief in particular.

The Justice, after hearing the argument on both sides, said he should hold the prisoner in one hundred dollars bond, to appear at court, as the horse he stole was worth that amount. A bond was executed, signed by his friend, who had got his watch and all his money to indemnify him against loss. The irons were taken off and the criminal set at liberty, and he was never heard from afterwards. Court came on, but the prisoner was not to be found. The State's Attorney made a motion to default the security, when the attorney for the defense called his attention to the wording of the bond, which bound the security (not the prisoner) in one hundred dollars penalty

for his appearance, and said he, "the security is now in court ready to answer." The State's Attorney threw down the paper, and called the next case on the docket.

Another case of horse-stealing came before a new Justice, about the same time. The evidence of guilt being clear, his attorney introduced a new plan of defense. While the Justice was at dinner he tore the leaf out of the statute which relates to horse-stealing, and on resuming the case, he admitted the theft, but contended that there was no law in this State against horse-stealing. Every one was surprised at this declaration. The attorney for the prosecution said he would soon show the court what the law was. Taking up the statute, he consulted the index, but on turning to the page indicated, could find neither page nor law. This was very perplexing; he could not explain the mystery; after looking the book over and over again, and finding no law on the subject, he abandoned the case.

The Justice said, horse-stealing was wrong, and a great moral evil in community, but, added he, "as there appears to be no law in this State against it, I do not feel authorized to hold the prisoner for trial," and he ordered the irons taken off and the thief set free.

SWAMP LANDS.

In September, 1850, a bill passed Congress, giving to the State of Arkansas all the swamp and overflowed land within her borders; afterwards, the bill was so amended as to apply to all other States. In January, 1852, the Legislature passed an act giving these lands to the counties wherein they lie. This county made a survey of her lands, and found she was entitled to between 30,000 and 40,000 acres, mostly lying on Green river, with a few tracts on the Illinois river. In September, 1856, these lands were sold, and the proceeds, amounting to about $115,000, appropriated

to the school fund. The purchasers were dissatisfied with the funds being so appropriated, contending they should be used for draining the lands. Some refusing to pay their obligations, (the sales being mostly on time,) the county became involved in a lawsuit. Some of the purchasers, however, have paid up according to agreement, and received their deeds. The county is now engaged in draining these lands, and the probabilities are, all the proceeds of sale will be used in this way.

Within this swamp survey there is much valuable land. Some of it is now under cultivation, and the greater portion is good grazing or meadow land.

SHAUBENA

Was a chief of great influence among the Pottawatomies. Although his residence was at Shaubena Grove, in DeKalb county, he frequently made Bureau his hunting-ground, and was well known by most of the early settlers of this county. At the time of the Black Hawk war, great inducements were held out to him to join the Sacs and Foxes; but this he refused to do, and left their council to notify the settlers at Holderman's Grove and Indian Creek of the intended outbreak. Some of the settlers unfortunately disregarded the warning, and paid the forfeit with their lives. The settlers of Bureau were warned of their danger by the same source, and had the prudence to leave. For this act of kindness, he was always held in high estimation by the whites. In the fall of 1836, Shaubena and his whole band, consisting of one hundred and twenty-three Indians, camped, with their one hundred and fifty ponies, on Bureau creek, at the crossing of the Dixon road. At that time, the author of these sketches was living close by, and was frequently in the camp, and had long conversations with him. A brief account of his life, as given by himself, may not be without interest to the reader.

He said he was an Ottawa Indian; but, in his youth, he fell in love with a very

beautiful squaw, a daughter of a Pottawatomie chief. Here he introduced me to his squaw, who sat on the ground, sewing a moccasin. I could not, for my life, see in her the great beauty he spoke of; but, probably, time had erased that comeliness which had captivated the youthful heart of Shaubena.

He said that, at the time of the British war, he was made a war chief, and, with his band, joined Tecumseh's forces in Canada; was an aid to that chief, and stood by his side when he fell at the battle of the Thames, shot by Colonel Johnson—as he described it, by "the big warrior on a white horse." He was about to use his tomahawk on the slayer of the great chief, but was prevented from doing so by the falling of Johnson's horse, pierced by many bullets. When he found that Proctor's forces had run, said he, "Shaubena ran, too, and never fought for the British any more."

He was also present, according to his statement, at the council of chiefs to decide upon the fate of the prisoners taken at the Chicago massacre, in 1812, and, by his influence, saved them from the stake.

He also spoke of the hostile combination, which was formed by the different tribes in 1816, to make war on the frontier settlements. He rode day and night, to persuade them to abandon their project; and through his energy, and Senachwine's eloquence, the peace party prevailed. In 1827, at the time of the Winnebago trouble, many of the Pottawatomies agreed to join them. He again used his influence to prevent their doing so, and, with other chiefs, met in council with General Cass, at the head of Peoria Lake. Here he renewed his pledge of fidelity to the whites.

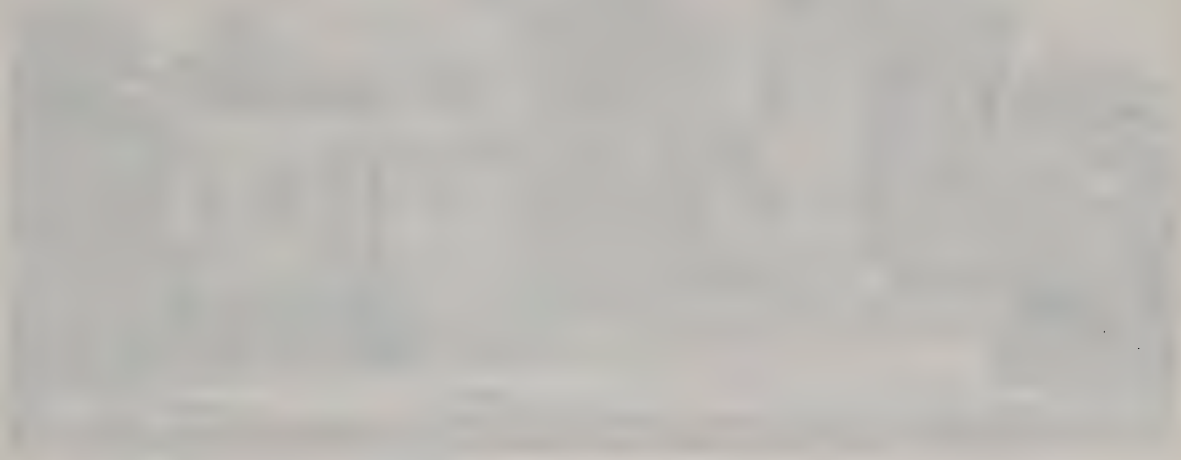
He stated that he and his band were with the army, and acted as scouts, during the Black Hawk war, and that the Government had paid them nothing for their services.*

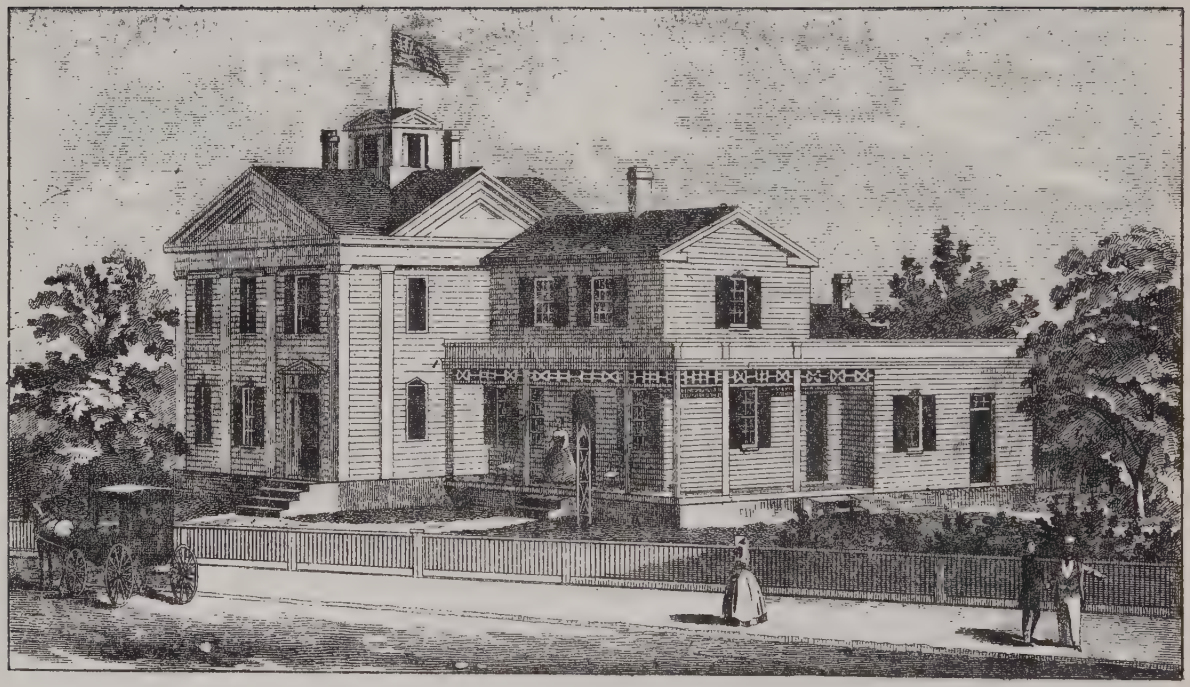
* It has been said that, while Shaubena, with the squaws and old men, were with the army, the young warriors were with Black Hawk. This charge Shaubena did not deny, but said he could not control them; "there was bad Indian as well as bad white man."

He said that he had hunted on Bureau for thirty years, and felt more attached to it than to any other place in his travels; for here he found plenty of game of all kinds; abundance of fish in the creek; and good range for his ponies. In a state of nature, he thought it almost a paradise; "but," added he, "it is fast changing. The whites are cutting down the timber, fencing up the trails, and driving off the game; it is getting to be a poor place for Indian." He continued: "I have spent many happy days here; but this hunting tour will be my last. The Indian Agent has ordered me to go west of the Mississippi river, where the Great Father at Washington has prepared hunting-grounds for myself and people. There I shall lay my bones, and no more visit the land of my youth." The younger Indians appeared to be full of life and mirth; but I could see something sad in the face of Shaubena.

One windy day in October, while the leaves were falling fast, and the grove was almost stripped of its foliage, on visiting the camp, in company with others, we found everything ready for the departure; ponies loaded with tents, cooking utensils, squaws, pappooses, etc. With a friendly good-bye, they left for their home in the West.

About one year after Shaubena left, one cold, wet day, I saw a few Indians crossing the prairie, on the old Sacs and Fox trail. On coming up to them, I soon recognized Shaubena, with his two wives, children, grandchildren, and a few other followers, leaving their adopted home in the West, and making their way back to their old home, in DeKalb county. I inquired the cause of it. He said he could not live West, the Sacs and Foxes had threatened his life, for his fidelity to the whites. They had killed his son and nephew, and hunted him down like a wild beast. The Government had reserved for him and his people a township of land, at their old home, but afterwards had it surveyed and sold, and ordered them off. He was going back to it, let the consequence be what it would. He was old and sick (having the ague), and was betrayed by both white man and Indian. If the Government had been just to him,





RESIDENCE OF N. MATSON , PRINCETON ILLS.

he would have retained his lands and his home, instead of being an outcast and a wanderer.

Shaubena never went West again, but died on the banks of the Illinois river, a short distance below Seneca, in July, 1859, aged eighty-four years, and was buried at Morris.

No monument marks the resting-place of this friend of the white man.

SENACHWINE.

(*The Indian pronunciation is Se-nach-e wane.*)

This chief lived on Senachwine creek, a few miles below the county line. But little is known of his history, as he died about the time the first white settlers came here; and was buried on a high bluff that overlooked the Indian village and the beautiful valley of Senachwine. For many years, Indians from a distance made annual pilgrimages to the tomb of the sainted dead. He is said to have been a chief of great ability. Poets and historians speak of him as being almost a prodigy of his race. Shaubena said, he was no hunter, no warrior, but great to sing songs, make speeches, and like squaws—eight or ten of whom claimed him for their husband.

The following lines, commemorating the grave of Senachwine, were written by John H. Bryant, of Princeton:—

SENACHWINE'S GRAVE.

He sleeps beneath the spreading shade,
  Where woods and wild savannas meet,
Where sloping hills around have made
  A quiet valley, green and sweet.

A stream that bears his name, and flows
  In glimmering gushes from the West,
Makes a light murmur as it goes
  Beside his lonely place of rest.

* * * *

Oh, spare his rest! Oh, level not
  The trees, whose boughs above it play,
Nor break the turf that clothes the spot,
  Nor clog the rivulet's winding way.

* * * *

Ah! scorn not that a tawny skin
  Wrapped his strong limbs and ample breast:
A noble soul was throned within,
  As the pale Saxon ever pressed.

* * * *

A scene he loved around him lies,
  These blooming plains outspreading far,
River, and vale, and boundless skies,
  With sun, and cloud, and shining star.

He knew each pathway through the wood,
  Each dell, unwarmed by sunshine's gleam,
Where the brown pheasant led her brood,
  Or wild deer came to drink the stream.

Oft hath he gazed from yonder height,
  When pausing 'mid the chase alone,
On the fair lands beneath his sight,
  And fondly called them all his own.

RAILROADS.

Chicago, Burlington and Quincy.—This road was built through the county in 1854; and is the best paying road in the State. The stock, for the last two years, has sold in the market from 118 to 135. At present there are six passenger trains per day on this road.

Chicago and Rock Island.—Built through this county in 1853. It does a large business, and may be considered (after the C., B. & Q. R. R.) the best paying road in the State. The stock, for a number of years, has been above par.

Peoria and Bureau Valley.—Built soon after the completion of the C. & R. I. R. R. It extends from Bureau Junction to Peoria.

Albany, Camanchee and Mendota.—This road is to run from Mendota to Albany, on the Mississippi river. It was commenced in 1857, and partly graded through this county, but is still unfinished.

Old Illinois Central.—This contemplated railroad entered this county in Section 25, Westfield, and left it in Section 2, Lamoille, making a straight line through the county. In 1839, work was commenced on this road and the grading partly completed, when the work was abandoned.

ILLINOIS AND MISSISSIPPI CANAL.

This canal is under contemplation, with a prospect of being built at no distant day. A survey of the route was made in the summer of 1866, and found to be more practicable than was expected. It is to connect the Illinois with the Mississippi river. The water to supply it is to be taken out of Rock river below Dixon, (the feeder to

intersect the canal at the summit west of Devil's Grove); and should the canal be constructed, it will have a length, in this county, (including feeder) of forty-eight miles.

PERU AND DIXON PLANK ROAD.

In 1839, a stock company was organized, called the Peru and Dixon Plank Road Company, with the intention of connecting these places with a plank road. In 1850, the road was completed as far as Arlington, when the project of building it farther was abandoned. Toll was collected for a few years after it was completed, when it was given up to the public.

MILLS OF BUREAU COUNTY.

There have been fifty-five mills built in this county, at different times, forty-seven of which were water, and eight steam; thirty-two of these were saw and twenty-three flouring mills.

Of the water mills, thirty-one were built on Main Bureau, four on West Bureau, one on East Bureau, one on Masters' fork of Bureau, one on Spring creek, one on Crow creek, two on Coal creek, one on Green river, two on Brush creek, two on Negro creek, and one run by a spring near Lake Dupu.

There are running at the present time, fifteen water and six steam mills.

CHENOWETH PRAIRIE

Is the name given to the prairie in the south part of the town of Arispie. It takes its name from Elder J. B. Chenoweth, who was among the first settlers.

DIMMICK'S GROVE.

This includes all the timber in Lamoille Township. It took its name from Daniel Dimmick, who settled on the east side of the grove in 1830.

FARMORA

Is the name of a lane, in the town of Wyanet, running east and west by Holroyd school-house, and E. S. Phelps' farm. At one time, it had the name of Gabble Town lane.

DORR HILL

Is the name given to a high knoll on Section 27, Indiantown. It took its name from Mathew Dorr, who settled there in 1837.

HALL'S SETTLEMENT

Was in the vicinity of Hollowayville. It took its name from John Hall, who settled there at an early day.

HEATON'S POINT

Is the name given to the head of West Bureau timber. Before the country was settled it had a very beautiful appearance, running up like a cone in the big prairie. Since it is settled around, it has lost much of its romance. It took its name from R. Heaton, who settled there in 1836.

HICKORY POINT.

A little point of timber, extending out from the main grove, in Section 25, in the town of Bureau.

HIGHLAND POINT

Is the prairie where Providence now stands. At this point a large portion of the county can be seen, a part of eighteen towns being visible. Red Oak, Dad Joe, and Lost Groves, are in plain view. When the atmosphere is favorable, with a good glass, Buffalo Grove, north of Rock river, fifty-six miles distant, can be seen.

LONE TREE.

This old landmark of former days, stood on Section 16, Wheatland, about half a mile from the grove on the high prairie, and could be seen for many miles, to guide the lonely traveler in the absence of roads. It was a white oak, about two or two and a half feet in diameter, with large branching top. This tree, after having withstood the force of the winds for centuries, at last yielded to their power in June, 1866, and is no more; but its memory will live long among the people of that locality. There is a published legend connected with this tree, but it is not considered very reliable, therefore, it is thought best not to give it. There was a post office at this point, called Lone Tree, but it has been removed to another place.

LOST GROVE PRAIRIE.

This includes all the prairie north-east of the Bureau timber. This was the first prairie settled in the county.

An incident occurred on this prairie, during the time of the Black Hawk war, which is rather laughable. About the 1st of June, 1832, General Atkinson and Gov. Reynolds, with an escort of United States soldiers, while passing from Rock river to the Illinois river, came in contact with a party of Captain Willis' company of Rangers, in the vicinity of Perkins' Grove. Each mistook the other for Indians. After maneuvering on both sides awhile, the Regulars gave way, the Rangers pursuing; being the best mounted they gained on the fugitives. The race continued for some distance. When the Rangers discovered their mistake, they used every means to stop the frightened troops, by raising their blankets and blowing their horns. At last the soldiers, beginning to suspect their pursuers were not their deadly foes, called a halt, and

sent two of their number back to reconnoiter, when the mystery was explained. It is said Captain Willis rebuked General Atkinson for his cowardice, which had caused all parties so much trouble. There were twenty-five Regulars and twenty-one Rangers, some of the latter belonging to the Bureau settlement.

About the 1st of August, 1837, a murder of a revolting character was committed on this prairie. The Rev. Rufus Lumry, while traveling on the Indian trail, about one mile west of Lost Grove, discovered a number of buzzards. He rode a short distance out to see what they were after, and was horrified to find the remains of a man, divested of all his clothing, and his eyes picked out by the buzzards. From appearance, it was thought, he had been dead three or four days. He notified the people on Bureau (there was no one living within six miles, at the time), an inquest was held, and the body buried. It appears he was attacked in the grove, shot, and fell from his horse; he ran about a mile, was overtaken and his brains beaten out with a club. The club, with blood and hair on it, was found close by. A suit of clothes and a pocket bible were found in the grass not far off, but they gave no clue to the mysterious affair. Some years afterwards, a man by the name of Green, who was hung in Iowa, acknowledged that he committed this murder. He was employed by the murdered man to conduct him through, from Fox river to Princeton. After committing the act, he appropriated the clothing, horse, and money of his victim to his own use, and left the body on the prairie as stated above. The murdered man's name was Dunlap, and he lived in Ohio.

ROUND POINT.

The little circular grove north of Mrs. C. Bryant's residence. It was an old landmark at the first settling of the county.

ROUND PRAIRIE.

This is a name given to a little circular prairie, containing about one hundred acres, in Sections 24 and 25, Indiantown.

BOYD'S PRAIRIE

Includes all the prairie in the south part of the county, on both sides of Boyd's Grove. It took its name from Charles S. Boyd, who settled there in 1830. In the winter of 1830–31, two men froze to death on this prairie. The circumstances are these: Three persons, named Cooper, McMillan, and a doctor (whose name is not now recollected,) were hauling goods from Peoria to Galena, on sleds, with ox teams. The snow being very deep and drifting, they could not get through, and, leaving their teams about four miles south of the grove, they started on foot for Boyd's. It was very cold, and in the dark they lost their way. The doctor gave out first, and they covered him over with snow, to prevent his freezing, until assistance could be procured; (his body was not found for many days afterwards.) Cooper and McMillan wandered about all night in the snow-drifts, when Cooper gave out, his feet being badly frosted, and could go no further. McMillan wrapped him up in a blanket, covered him over with snow, and started on. After going a short distance, he looked back and saw Cooper trying to follow him; he only went a few rods when he fell and perished on the snow. McMillan at last reached the house, badly frosted. The oxen all perished except two.

WINNEBAGO SWAMPS.

This is the old name for Green river. In former days, it was the great hunting-ground for the Indians; and for many years after the settlement of the county, those fond of hunting would frequently visit this locality. Deer, wild geese, ducks, and all kinds of furs, were found in abundance.

BERLIN CENTER.

This place is located in Section 28, town of Berlin. In 1854, a large warehouse was built, with the expectation of the railroad station being located here. There are a school-house and a few dwellings at this point.

NORTH PRAIRIE.

The name given to the prairie north of Main Bureau, in the towns of Ohio and Lamoille.

HAZELWOOD.

A name of a precinct before the township organization. It included the towns of Milo and Wheatland. Elections in this precinct were held at Boyd's Grove.

BUREAU SETTLEMENT.

This included all the settlement within the present limits of Bureau county, for some years after the settlement had commenced.

CENTER PRAIRIE

Is the name given to the prairie lying between Main and West Bureau, in the towns of Wyanet and Bureau.*

* It was not the design of this work to give a description of every place in the county, but of those only which are identified with its early settlement. Many of these old landmarks have long since disappeared, and are not known to the people of the present day. But they still exist in the memory of the old settlers.

VILLAGES OF BUREAU COUNTY.

ARLINGTON.

This place was laid off by Michael Kennedy, December 19, 1853. It has three dry goods stores, one grocery store, one clothing store, one drug store, one hotel, three meeting-houses, two school-houses, and three physicians. It also has a steam mill. There was shipped on the railroad, from this place, last year, 63,306 bushels of wheat, 233,300 bushels of corn, 2,101 head of beef cattle, 2,526 head of hogs, and 26,254 lbs. of dressed pork.

BOURBONAIS

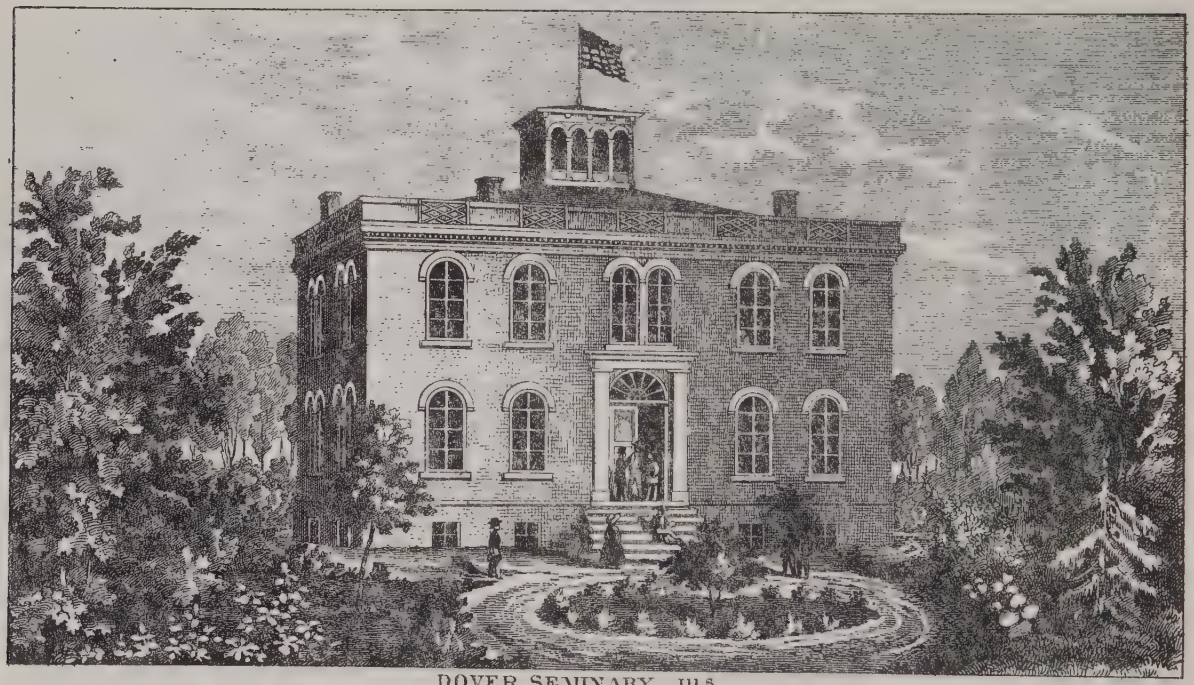
Was laid off by John H. Robinson, July, 1864. This place is located in Bulbona Grove, in the town of Concord, where there is an excellent coal bank. A large amount of coal is shipped on the railroad to different points. The coal taken out of this bank, is said to be superior to any other bank in the county. The name of the post office is Lovejoy.

BREWERSVILLE

Was laid off by Richard Brewer, January, 1865. It contains one school-house, one meeting-house, and two stores. The name of the post office is Walnut. This place is located in the town of Walnut.

BUDA.

This village was laid off in November, 1854, by Jesse Emerson and James Zink. It contains four dry goods stores, one grocery store, one boot and shoe store, one



DOVER SEMINARY, 1858

hotel, one large union school-house with a number of rooms, four meeting-houses, three physicians, and one attorney. There was shipped from this point, last year, 34,300 bushels of wheat, 125,700 bushels of corn, 670 head of beef cattle, 1,109 hogs, and 43,196 lbs. of dressed pork.

BUREAU JUNCTION.

This place lies at the junction of the Bureau Valley with the Rock Island railroad; it is situated on second bottom land, but a short distance from the main river bottom. A commencement was made here in 1853, at the time the railroad was built, but the town was not laid out until some years afterwards. There is a large hotel here belonging to the railroad company, which does a fine business, as it is a place of changing cars. It also contains a fine brick school-house, with one store, and three saloons. Major Wm. Shields was the proprietor of this place.

CLARION STATION

Is in Section 35, town of Clarion. There is a switch off the main track. Produce is shipped here.

CONCORD

Was laid off by Joseph Brigham, March 26, 1836, on the north-west quarter of Section 26, Dover. Vacated February 28, 1837.

DOVER.

This place was laid off by Eli Lapsley, in July, 1837. Its original name was Livingston, which was changed to the present name for the purpose of getting a post office. It contains three stores, one hotel, two school-houses, three meeting-houses, and four physicians. The village was incorporated under the general corporation law in 1858.

There is a seminary here, built, by contributions of the citizens, in 1856. This building does great credit to the place, and is the principal cause of the village sustaining itself, as the greater portion of trade in this vicinity goes to Malden, where they have the advantage of a railroad.

Dover has, oftentimes, been styled the Puritan town of the county, on account of the piety and intelligence of its citizens. Whether or not it is entitled to this appellation, I am not prepared to say; but it certainly is not inferior in this respect to other towns in the county.

For beauty of location, it has no superior. Had the railroad passed through instead of going south of it, it would have been (with regard to business and population) the second place in the county.

FAIRMONT

Was laid off by Eli Nichols, June 18, 1836, on the south-west quarter of Section 17, Berlin. Vacated February, 1840.

HOLLOWAYVILLE

Was laid off by S. S. Holloway, in February, 1857. It has one dry goods store, one grocery store, one meeting-house, two school-houses, and two physicians. This place is surrounded by a rich farming community; but it has the river on one side and the railroad on the other, which leaves it without much trade. This village is in the town of Selby.

KINNORWOOD.

This fanciful town was located on the Illinois river, above the mouth of Negro creek; its survey bearing date March 11, 1836. The proprietors were Col. H. L. Kinney, of Nicaragua notoriety, Geo. H. Norris, and R. P. Woodworth. The name

of the place was obtained by joining the first syllable of each of the proprietors' names. This was nothing more than a paper town, as no building was ever erected on its site. It was vacated by an act of the Legislature.

LAMOILLE

Was laid off April 15, 1836, by Tracy Reeve, and John Kendall. It was called Greenfield, but was afterwards changed to Lamoille. It is very pleasantly situated by the side of the grove, and is surrounded by good farming lands, which partially compensates for its being off the railroad. The Albany, Camanchee and Mendota Railroad, which is to pass through this place, is partially graded through the county.

It contains three dry goods stores, one grocery store, one hardware store, two hotels, one school-house with two rooms, three meeting-houses, three physicians, and one attorney. The Baptist church, built here at a cost of some $10,000 or $12,000, is a fine structure.

LIMERICK.

This town was laid out by Geo. Limerick, in 1857. It has one store, one meeting-house, and about fifteen or twenty dwellings.

MALDEN

Was laid off by B. L. Smith, September, 1855. It was called Wiona, but its name was afterwards changed to that of Malden. It has two dry goods stores, two grocery stores, one hardware store, two school-houses, and three meeting-houses. The village was incorporated by an act of the Legislature in 1867. In the year 1865, there was shipped on the railroad from this place, 11,673 bushels of wheat, 142,300 bushels of corn, 111 head of beef cattle, 531 head of hogs, and 19,211 lbs. of dressed pork.

MINERAL

Was laid off by Wm. Riley, in 1857. It has two stores, two groceries, one school-house, and one meeting-house.

NEPONSET.

This place was laid off by Edward Fairris and C. Little, January 11, 1855. It contains five dry goods stores, two hardware stores, three grocery stores, two furniture stores, three grain dealers, one drug store, one clothing store, three hotels, one school-house with two rooms, two meeting-houses, two physicians, and one attorney. It was incorporated in 1866. There was shipped on the railroad from this place last year, 49,500 bushels of wheat, 195,000 bushels of corn, 1,689 head of beef cattle, 4,969 head of hogs, and 66,607 lbs. of dressed pork.

NEW BEDFORD

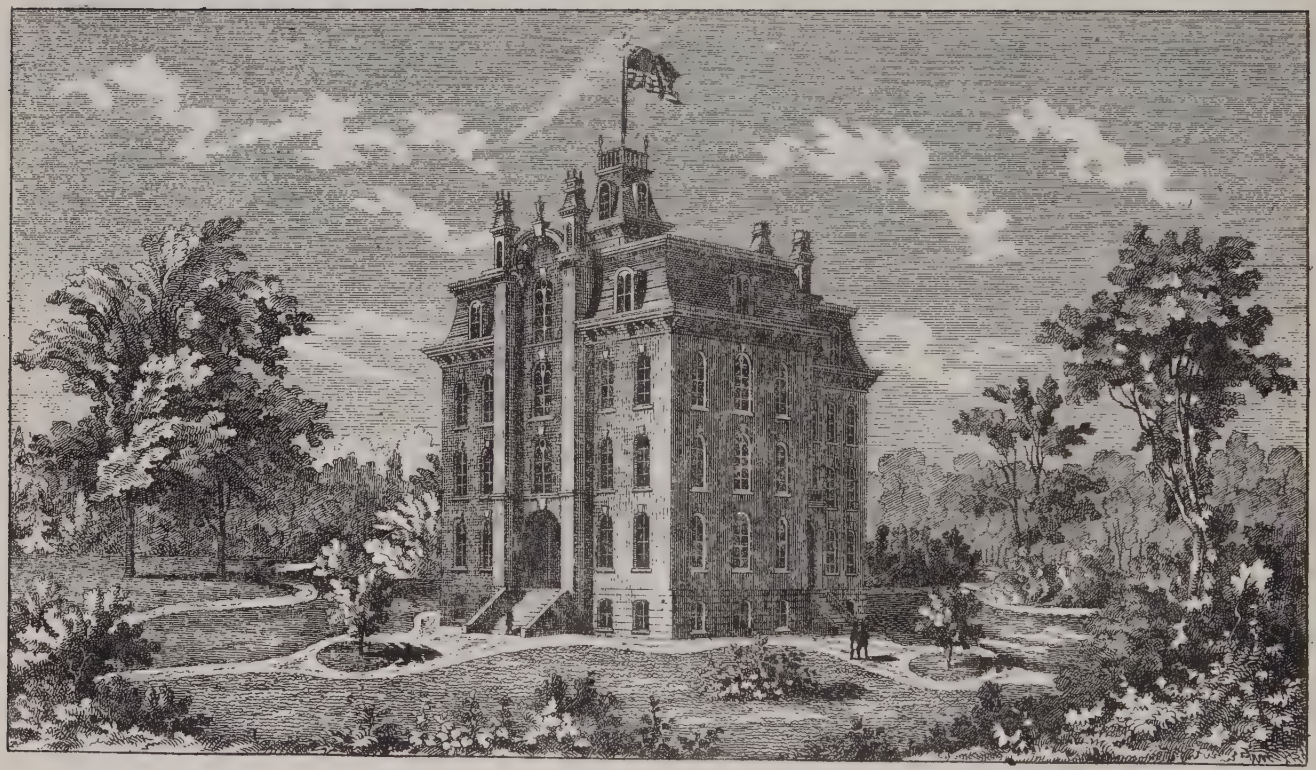
Was laid off by Jacob Galer, June 30, 1855. It contains one dry goods store, one grocery store, one school-house, and one meeting-house. This place is located on Green river, and in the town of Greenville.

OTTVILLE

Is in the north-east corner of Section 30, town of Hall. It contains one store, a blacksmith's shop, and a post office. A meeting-house, and school, are located close by.

POND CREEK STATION.

No village has ever been laid off at this point. In fact, the land will not permit of a town plat. It is located in the valley of Pond creek, which is very narrow, with high banks on either side. Besides the Depot, there is a steam mill and a few dwell-



J. L. Meriam, Architect.

HIGH SCHOOL, PRINCETON ILLS.

ings. A large amount of produce is shipped at this point. This station is on the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad, and in the town of Wyanet.

PRINCETON.

Princeton was laid off by Roland Moseley, John P. Blake, and John Musgrove, acting as School Trustees, it being located on Section 16. Its surveys bear date September, 1832. The sale of lots took place in May, 1833, the average proceeds of sale being about two and a half dollars per acre.

The first building erected on its site was a log cabin, built by S. D. Cartwright, in the fall of 1833, on a now vacant lot, north of the Congregational church, and used by him as a blacksmith shop; (this was the first blacksmith shop in the county). The second building was a frame, twelve feet square, built by John M. Gay, where the Templeton store now stands. The third was a log cabin built by F. Haskill, on the lot where Aaron Fisher's residence now stands, and was used by him as a store. It was opened for the sale of goods, June 7, 1834; (this was the first store in the county, and probably the first west of the Illinois river, north of Peoria.) The fourth was a hotel, built by Stephen Triplett, south of Dr. Wm. O. Chamberlin's office; about this time John M. Gay built a part of the old frame building, still standing north of Leadley's hardware store.

The first meeting-house was a two-story frame building, erected in the fall of 1835, on the public square, where the court-house now stands. This was called the Hampshire Colony Congregational Church. The second meeting-house was a small one-story framed structure, built by the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1837, near the residence of C. L. Kelsey.

In 1838, the town was incorporated, and in 1857, an amended charter was g ranted, by an act of the Legislature, giving it all the privileges of an incorporated city, minus

the name and population. The corporation, as it now stands, includes all of Section 16, the east half of Section 17, and the south-west quarter of Section 9.

In 1845, a good, substantial court-house was built; the jail and sheriff's residence was built in 1856; and, in 1860, the new court-house was erected. This building, for beauty of design and convenience, is not surpassed by any building of the kind in the State.

The growth of Princeton has been slow but steady. Before the building of railroads, trade mostly went to the river, but at the present time Princeton is the center of trade for the county. For health and beauty of location, it probably has no rival in the State, and will, at no distant day, be a large place.

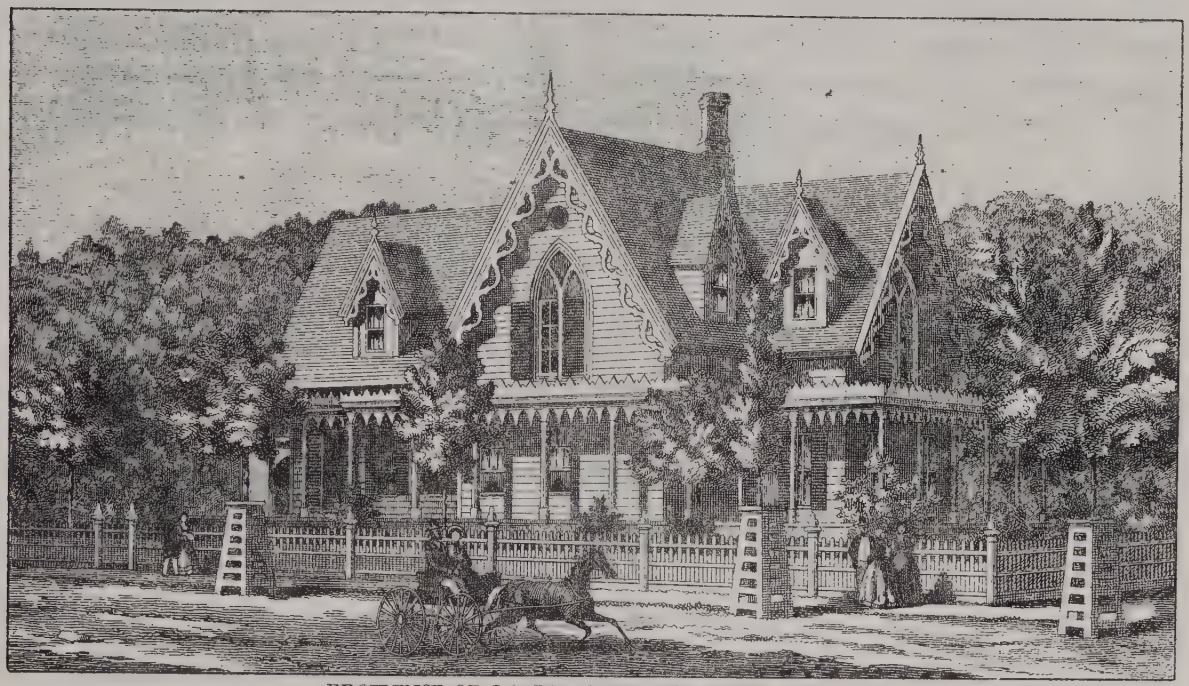
It contains ten dry goods stores, nine grocery stores, four hotels, four shoe and leather stores, four hardware stores, four drug stores, four furniture stores, two printing offices (issuing weekly newspapers), two banks, two steam flouring mills, one foundry, one steam plow factory, one steam machine factory, one steam sash factory, over sixteen miles of sidewalk, twelve meeting-houses, and six school-houses. The new high-school building, which was constructed at a cost of about $60,000, is thought to excel any building of the kind west of Chicago.

There are fifteen attorneys, fourteen physicians, and about 4,000 inhabitants.

There were shipped on the railroad, from this place, last year, 63,800 bushels of wheat, 212,000 bushels of corn, 1,559 head of beef cattle, 3,280 head of hogs, and 315,386 lbs. of dressed pork.

PROVIDENCE.

This place was laid off in July, 1837, by a colony from Rhode Island. The proprietors were Asa Barney, Caleb Cushing, Leonard Scott, S. G. Wilson, and Edward Baily. It has one store, one meeting-house, one school-house, and fifteen or twenty dwellings.



RESIDENCE OF C.A. DEAN, Tiskilwa, Illinois.

SEATTLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O.
Seattle

SHEFFIELD

Was laid out in October, 1852, by the Sheffield Mining and Transportation Company. This company is largely engaged in shipping coal to Chicago and other points. The village contains four dry goods stores, four grocery stores, one hardware store, one drug store, one steam flouring mill, two hotels, two school-houses (one of which contains a number of rooms), four meeting-houses, and three physicians.

TISKILWA.—(See WINDSOR.)

This place is pleasantly situated in the valley of the Bureau. About one-half of the village is in Arispie, and the other half in Indiantown. For business and population it ranks the second place in the county. It contains eight dry goods stores, five grocery stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, two furniture stores, two lumber yards, one hotel, two school-houses, three meeting-houses, four physicians, one attorney, five grain dealers, one steam mill, and one water mill. Some years ago, a newspaper, called the *Tiskilwa Independent*, was published here, but it has been discontinued. Tiskilwa was incorporated in 1856.

TRENTON.

In the summer of 1835, John Hall built a warehouse here, and steamboats commenced running into the lake. In 1836, a company bought a tract of land, where Trenton now stands, of John Clark, the then owner. Two large warehouses were built soon after. In 1842, Benj. Newell bought the property, and in April, 1853, he laid off the town. For some years, this was a place of considerable business, and large shipments of grain, pork, and beef, were made from here. It was not an uncommon thing to see canal-boats loading for Chicago, and, at the same time, steam-

boats loading for St. Louis or New Orleans. Of late years it has lost much of its trade.

It has three stores, one hotel, one school-house, one meeting-house, and four warehouses. There is a steam mill here, but it is not running at present. The post office is called Dupu.

TRUXTON

Was laid off in 1851, on the north-east and north-west quarters of Section 16, Manlius, by School Trustees. It is nothing but a paper town, no building having ever been erected on its site.

WEST HENNEPIN.

This town was laid off in February, 1836, by Lewis Durley, A. S. Needham, and G. T. Gorham. At one time, this was a place of considerable business. A number of large warehouses were built here, and there were large shipments of grain, pork and beef. From 1842 to 1852, a great part of the products of this county found a market here. After the building of railroads, trade was turned in a different direction. Some of the warehouses were removed to other points, and all that now remains of the town, is water lots.

One-half of the ferry at this point belongs to this county, and the other half to Putnam county. This ferry was established in 1831, at the time Hennepin was laid off. About this time, one Dave Jones (the same man that built the first cabin on the present site of Tiskilwa), was on the Hennepin side with a wild yoke of cattle, and wished to cross to the west side, but was unwilling to pay the ferriage. He swore he would swim the river, which he said he always had done and could do it again. He wore a long tail Jackson overcoat, that reached down to his heels, the weather being quite cold. He drove his oxen into the river, taking the tail of one in his mouth.

They struck a bee line for the opposite shore, and away went Dave Jones with his long hair and long tailed overcoat, floating on the water, his teeth tightly riveted to the steer's tail, rowing with his hands and feet with all his might. Everything went on swimmingly until they reached the middle of the river, where the currents from both sides of the island come together. This was too strong for the cattle. They turned down stream and put back to the Hennepin side. Jones could not open his mouth to say "gee" or "haw," without losing hold of the tail, and was obliged to go where the cattle led. However, they all landed safe some distance below the starting place. Jones was in an awful rage, beat his cattle, and cursed the bystanders for laughing at his misfortune. After taking a big dram of whisky, he tried it again, with about the same success. For three or four different times, he tried the same experiment, each time whipping his cattle, and taking a fresh dram of whisky. At last he was obliged to give it up, and submit to the paying of the exorbitant price of twenty-five cents to be ferried over.

WINDSOR, WEST WINDSOR, AND INDIANTOWN.—(See Tiskilwa.)

Windsor was founded, January 15th, 1836, by Dr. A. Langworthy, and it included that part of Tiskilwa, lying in the township of Arispie. Its surveys embraced all of the old Indian village, cornfields, and dance-ground. It was a big thing. Of all the towns that came into existence during the wild speculation of 1836, no one showed so well on paper as Windsor. Here was the great public or County square, a Market square, and Liberty square. There was a reservation for church and seminary purposes, all devoted to the use of the public. There were roads branching off to almost every point of the compass, connecting it with Chicago, St. Louis, Springfield, Rock

Island, and all other points. Passing through it was (the proposed) great ship canal, connecting the Illinois with the Mississippi river.

In March of the same year, there was a large addition made to this town, by J. W. Kinney, called West Windsor; it included that part of Tiskilwa, lying in the township of Indiantown. This too, was a great paper town, and appeared, if possible, to excel the parent city. Its streets bore the names of the Presidents—such as Washington, Jefferson, etc. It contained many public parks, or squares—the most conspicuous was Judicial and Pleasant squares, intended as breathing places for the (prospectively) crowded population. But, alas! for its greatness. Pelanque and Tadmor had their day, and so had West Windsor; with all its pomp and splendor, on the 17th of September, 1836, it was blotted out of existence, (the town plat was vacated).

The plain and unpretending village of Indiantown sprang up on its ruins. For some years Windsor and Indiantown were rival villages; the best of feeling between the two did not always exist. In 1840, the two were united, and took the name of Tiskilwa.

WYANET.

This place was laid off by Henry King, in April, 1856, some time after the completion of the railroad to this point. It contains two dry goods stores, two grocery stores, two drug stores, two hardware stores, two milliners' stores, one boot and shoe store, one furniture store, one clothing store, one foundry, one lumber yard, two hotels, two school-houses, two meeting-houses, four grain dealers, four physicians, and one attorney. Wyanet has many advantages over most other places on the railroad. It is accessible to all the north-west part of the county, and is the place for changing cars to the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad. Two lines of omnibuses run between

Wyanet and Pond Creek Station, three-quarters of a mile distant, to connect with the trains. A charter has been obtained from the Legislature for the building of a horse railroad between Wyanet and Pond Creek Station. Last year there was shipped from this point, 17,200 bushels of wheat, 120,000 bushels of corn, 1,489 head of beef cattle, 1,291 head of hogs, and 50,471 lbs. of dressed pork. This village was incorporated in 1858, under the general corporation law.

YORKTOWN

Is the name of a settlement and post office in the north-west part of Fairfield. A store and school-house are at this point.

MISCELLANEOUS.

When the settlement of the county commenced, the place for getting milling done was at a horse mill six miles east of Peoria. In the fall of 1830, Amos Leonard built a mill in this county for grinding corn. Peoria was the nearest place where blacksmith work was done. Dad Joe frequently sent his plow irons there (it being sixty-seven miles distant) in the boot of the stage coach, to have them sharpened. At a later day, Burton Ayres, at the mouth of the Little Vermillion, did the blacksmith work for the people of this county.

The first marriage within the limits of the county was that of Leonard Roth to a daughter of Timothy Perkins, in the summer of 1830, the license being issued at the county clerk's office in Peoria. In those days citizens of Chicago obtained their marriage licenses at the same place. Abram Stratton and wife made the second wedding party, in 1831.

The first white child born was Mary Thomas, daughter of Henry Thomas, in December, 1830.

The first school was taught by Elijah Smith, in a part of his own dwelling, in the winter of 1833–4.

The first meeting-house was built in the fall of 1835, on the public square in Princeton.

The first school-house was built in the winter of 1833–4, on the farm now belonging to Mrs. R. Moseley.

The first ground plowed was on the farm now occupied by Elias Carter. This was done by Henry Thomas, on the 10th of June, 1828.

The first physician, and only one for many years, was Dr. N. Chamberlin. He settled here in July, 1831. When the country on Rock river began to be settled, his practice was also extended to that region.

The first religious services were held at the house of John Hall, in the fall of 1830. The first camp meeting was held on the farm now belonging to Wm. Knox, west of Princeton, in 1834. All religious denominations united in holding this meeting.

The oldest resident now living is Mrs. Hinsdale, wife of George Hinsdale. She came with Henry Thomas, in May, 1828. The oldest settler (head of family) now living, is Ezekiel Thomas.

Before the settlement of the country the streams were always clear; there was no washing to muddy them until the ground was plowed.

For the first three years of the settlement there was no law in force. The territory was attached to Peoria county, but no jurisdiction was exercised over it. In one case only was a tax collected; this was seventy-five cents, paid by Charles S. Boyd, it being the first tax paid in the county. The civil authority dates from the organization of Putnam county, in the spring of 1831. In August of the same year, Daniel Dimmick was elected the first justice of the peace in Bureau precinct.

Of the heads of families who settled here within the first two years, none are now living. Those who settled here the third year, (1830) and are now living in the county, are: Michael Kitterman, William Hoskins, Ezekiel Thomas, and Charles S. Boyd. Those who came here at the same time, but were not heads of families, are: Nicholas Smith, Abram Stratton, James Forristall, Hezekiah, Harrison and Lorenzo Epperson, Alexander and Nathaniel Boyd.

The county furnished for the United States army during the late rebellion, 3,626 soldiers, and paid over $650,000 in bounties for the same.

It was the intention to have concluded these sketches with a table of statistics, showing, as far as possible, the agricultural resources of the county. For this purpose, the officers of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad were called on, and through their politeness, a full and complete table was furnished, giving an account of their last year's business in this county, both of exports and imports. The officers of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad were asked for the same favor, but failed to comply with it. Therefore no complete estimate can be given.

Some of the products of this county are marketed outside of its limits. A portion of the grain raised in Fairfield goes to Rock river; in Clarion, to Mendota; in Hall and Selby, to Peru; in Leepertown, to Hennepin; and in Milo and Wheatland, to Senachwine.

BIOGRAPHY OF EARLY SETTLERS.

These sketches would not be complete without giving some additional account of those persons who have figured so extensively in the early settlement of the county, and have been frequently referred to in other parts of this work. While there is nothing very remarkable in the character of these men, their connection with the settlement, and their influence in shaping the destiny of this county, should give them a prominent place in its history. Its future inhabitants will regard them with a veneration like to that in which the people of the United States hold the first settlers of Jamestown and Plymouth. Those only will be referred to who settled here with their families as early as 1830.

Henry Thomas, the first settler of this county, was a native of Ohio, and came to Illinois in 1825, settling in Sangamon county. On the 5th of May, 1828, he made a claim in the town of Bureau, where he afterwards lived — his family living in a tent until a cabin could be built. At that time there was no permanent settler within thirty miles of him, and he could have no protection from an attack of ruthless savages who had possession of the whole country at that time. No man without energy and nerve would have ventured so far from neighbors and friends. But Mr. Thomas was a man willing to take these chances, possessing both enterprise and industry, and more than an ordinary degree of intelligence. He died in 1843, leaving a large landed property to his family.

John L. Ament was raised in Kentucky, and came to Red Oak Grove about the 15th of May, 1828. He was at that time a young man, living with his brothers, Justus, Edward, and Hiram, who were also single men. Their house was made a home for travelers, it being located on the Kellogg Trail. In 1829, Mr. Ament left the grove and made a claim in the town of Dover. In 1833, he settled in Princeton, where his family still live. He died in 1858, while yet in the prime of life.

Amos Leonard came here from Knox county, Ohio, in August, 1829, and pitched his tent near the mouth of Bureau creek, having crossed the river at Peoria, and come up on the west side. After exploring the country for some days, he made a claim where the family of Brown Searl now live, in the town of Selby. Mr. Leonard built the first mill in the county, and for many years was engaged in building mills and selling them to other parties. He built no less than eight mills in the county, which were of great convenience in its settlement. In 1853 he moved to Iowa, where he died the next year.

Charles S. Boyd (see portrait) is a native of the city of New York, where he resided until June, 1820, when he came to Springfield, Illinois, then containing but two or three log cabins. In April, 1830, he settled at Boyd's Grove, where he continued to live for fourteen years, keeping a house of entertainment in connection with farming. On the night of the 18th of January, 1831, Mr. Boyd's dwelling was burned down, consuming nearly all its contents, and leaving the family destitute. The snow was at that time two feet deep, and the thermometer below zero, and not a house within ten miles. In 1844, Mr. Boyd moved to Princeton, where he still lives.

Elijah Epperson was born in Virginia, but had lived in different States. In the spring of 1830, he settled one and a half miles north of Princeton, where many of the early settlers well recollect sharing the hospitality of his house while in search of a place to make their future home. Mr. Epperson was a local preacher, and delivered the first religious discourse in the county; he also officiated at the first marriage, (that of Leonard Roth to Miss Perkins, in 1830). There was some doubt about his authority to administer the marriage rite, as it was obtained from the church in Kentucky some years before. But there was no other authorized person within fifty miles, and the parties were willing to run the risk, and the legality of their marriage was never questioned. Mr. Epperson died February 4, 1856, aged seventy-five years.

Joseph Smith (Dad Joe) was born in Kentucky, in March, 1780, where he lived until 1825, when he came to Peoria, at that time containing but two or three French families. He was elected one of the first county commissioners when Peoria county was organized. Some years later he moved to Rock Island, and in 1829 left it on account of trouble with the Indians, his wife having received a severe wound on the head by a tomahawk, in the hands of one of Black Hawk's warriors. In the spring of 1830, he located at Dad Joe Grove, where he lived for many years, and became extensively known throughout the West. Thirty years ago there was probably not a person in the State of Illinois who had not heard of Dad Joe. His loud, lion-like voice, and peculiar habits, gave him great notoriety. He was kind and benevolent almost to a fault, and when he died in 1852, it might be said of him he never had an enemy.

Ezekiel Thomas came from Ohio to Illinois in 1827, and settled in Peoria county, where he lived for some years. In March, 1830, he came to this county, and

settled in the town of Bureau, where he still lives, enjoying the comforts of life, with his large family of now married children settled around him. Mr. Thomas is the oldest settler (head of family) now living in the county.

William Hoskins (see portrait) is a native of Kentucky, but lived some years in Indiana, close neighbor to Arraham Lincoln, late President of the United States, who once said of him in a public speech, "Mr. Hoskins was a good neighbor, for he would sometimes mend my shoes when they would get out of repair." In the fall of 1830, Mr. Hoskins settled in the town of Selby, where he still lives. He was elected one of the first county commissioners when this county was organized, and for many years was Judge of the County Court.

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